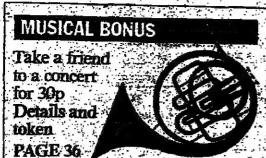
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WEDNESDAY FEBRUARY 28 1996



The digital battleground The £2 billion fight for new Army technology

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WIN TICKETS For Scotland England at Murrayfield

PAGE 44



Made to flatter An exclusive look at Jasper Conran's Autumn collection, P16



Family ties of fear Nigella Lawson on genetic clues to breast cancer **PAGE 17**

Summit to set target for talks

Ulster peace process to be relaunched

By PHILIP WEBSTER, NICHOLAS WATT AND NICHOLAS WOOD

JOHN MAJOR and John Bruton were trying last night to clear away obstacles to a London summit that could breathe life into the Northern-Ireland peace process today.

Differences over the way a target date for all-party talks. should be announced led to frantic negotiations between officials, and the two leaders had to delay the telephone call confirming that the summit would so ahead.

Dublin wanted to set a firm date for talks, while London preferred to say that they would start a set number of weeks after the parties agreed the format for the elections in Northern Ireland to pick negoating teams for the talks.

heart of the communique to be issued today will be lans for "proximity talks", a Dayton-style peace conference: at which the parties will talk through a mediator, to be followed by the elections.

Both sides hope that the greement will personade the IRA to stop their benefits campaign so that Simi Pe can take part in the talks and ballot is being left to the parties to decide, and the two Unionist parties have guite-different ideas on how they should proceed.

Yesterday Mr Major met the SDLP leader John Hume, who declared the peace process firmly back on track. He said: "A very positive approach has been made by Mr Major. We believe that when a firm date is fixed for all-party

talks, then the ceasefire will be restored." And in Dublin, Mr Bruton told the Irish Parliament that the views of the two governments were converging on agreeing a date and that he was working towards a summit as soon as possible.

But Gerry Adams of Sinn Fein expressed caution over the prospects. He said: "A new peace process must be rooted in clear unambiguous public assurances that all-party talks will begin by a fixed specified date as soon as possible, within an agreed timeframe and without preconditions."

As preparations for the the argument over how the proposed elections should be run led to claims that the Ulster Unionists had tried to blackmail the Prime Minister into backing their favoured system before the Commons



"Are you quite sure you want to call him Scott?"

vote on the Scott report on Monday. David Trimble was said to have offered to prop up the Government for 12 months in return for certain concessions, but the Unionist leader fercely denied the allegation. He said ministers who spread the reports were telling lies and accused the Government

The nine official Unionists voted with the Opposition on Monday, and Mr Trimble said yesterday: "We don't ex-pect ministers, because they're disappointed at the way we vote on a particular issue, to be rushing out afterwards with highly prejudicial com-ments of dubious accuracy. It is a petry form of revenge by small-minded people." Mr Trimble had himself

of having something to hide.

been suspicious that the Government had struck a deal with the Rev Ian Paisley's Democratic Unionists — a suggestion denied by Mr Ma-or and Sir Patrick Maybew and the row that followed the

Mr Paisley accused Mr. in the foot" and said he would be condemned for claiming to stand for morality and decency in government by voting with Labour, having spent hours trying to get a deal to suit his party interests. "I Continued on page 2, col 3

Great escape, page 8 Simon Jenkins, page 18 Leading article and



Letters, page 19 The late Duke of Atholl on parade with his private army, the Atholl Highlanders

Duke of Atholl dies, but his successor turns down the title

BRITAIN'S only bachelor duke died yesterday, leaving his castle and 70,000-acre lighland estate to a charitable trust and his tifle to a third cousin living in South Africa

who does not want it. The tenth Duke of Atholl, who was 64, had been in hospital in Perth since suffering a stroke last December. Because he had no immediate heirs, the tide passes to John Murray, 67, a retired land surveyor from the Northern Province, who, despite the distance of his family connection, is the next in the male line. Mr Murray said last night he had decided never to use the title.

During his only visit to Blair Castle, two years ago, Mr Murray made plain that he had no wish to abandon the sunshine of South Africa for the wet heather and bracing cold of Scotland. Yesterday, at his home in Tzaneen, near the Mozambique border, Mr Murray said that he felt no bitterness at acquiring a title but no land. "I never harboured any aspirations to inherit the estate; I am happy that the land has gone into a

Mr Murray confessed to not even owning a kilt and rarely drinking whisky. He said that his adult sons Bruce and Craig probably had more affinity with Scotland than he did. Both were members of the Transvaal Scottish, a South African part-time regiment founded by an ancestor in 1902. "I am a South African and would not want to go and live anywhere else," Mr Mur-

Representatives of the late duke said yesterday that he had first drawn up plans to put Blair Castle, his 120-room family seat, and a vast surrounding swath of Perthshire north of Pitlochry in trust ten

completed during his illness. They dismissed reports that the duke had deliberately disinherited his successor because, on their rare meetings, the two did not get on.

Rosemary Walker, spokes-man for the Atholi estates said: "The late duke handed over the estates to a charitable trust to ensure that they remained as an entity, for the sake of the people who work and live on them. He could have sold Atholl to anyone for



his fortune for the good of the area and did not make a

George lain Murray was best known as colonel-in-chief of Europe's last private army. The Atholl Highlanders, a 90strong corps of estate workers and Highland nobility, was created in 1844 by Queen Victoria and now parades twice a year as the duke's personal bodyguard. Its future is uncertain.

Blair Castle and the Atholl Highlanders are one of Perthshire's leading tourist attrac-tions, with 165,000 paying visitors last year.

Obituary, page 21

Pat Smythe dies aged 67

Pat Smythe, the herome of British showjumping in the 1950s, died in hospital yesterday. She was 67. In 1956 she was the first

woman to ride in the showjumping events at the Olympic Games and won a bronze medal. She won the Royal International Horse Show supreme championship

Obituary, page 21

schools overhaul

Labour has called for a drastic

Labour promises

overhand of comprehensive education so that bright pupils would be encouraged to forge ahead and the less able would be given extra help. David Blunkett, the Shad-

ow Education Secretary, pre-sented a damning picture of the existing comprehensive

The Times on the Internet http://www.the-times.co.uk

Briton killed in Russian gunfight

By Richard Beeston, Stephen Farrell and Andrew Pierce

A BRITISH solicitor was killed in crossfire during a Russian mafia killing at a five-star hotel in St Petersburg.

John Hyden, 41, was hit in the head when two killers. armed with Kalashnikov rifles, burst into the Nevsky

Palace Hotel and sprayed the coffee shop with up to 60 Mr Hyden, who runs the Moscow office of the London solicitors Sinclair Roche & Temperley, died instantly. His wife. Patricia, had returned to their Edinburgh home 10 days ago for the 21st birthday celebrations of her daughter.

Heather, by her first marriage.
The killers' intended target. a prominent local businessman, was seriously wounded. Two off-duty policemen, who

guards, died in the attack at months ago to head the com-4.20pm on Monday.

Natasha Belik, the public relations manager of the £300-

a-night hotel, said: "The Englishman was unlucky. Hewas not staying in the Nevsky Palace. He was sitting by himself in the corner of the coffee shop when the gurman opened fire. He was well away from the attack but was hit in the head by a stray bullet."

Mr Hyden studied modern history at Pembroke College, Oxford, before taking a law

degree at Glasgow University in 1979. He was fluent in German and Russian and had an Army background before entering private law practice in Scotland in 1988. He worked for two Scottish legal firms before moving to Sinclair Roche & Temperley in

1994. He moved to Russia 18

pany's new Moscowoperation advising local businessmen how to trade with Western companies. He had gone to St Petersburg seven weeks ago as a legal adviser to the European Bank of Reconstruction

and Development.
Mr and Mrs Hyden married three years ago and had no children. They were visited in Russia by Mrs Hyden's three children from a previous marriage, Keith Fisken, 26, Graeme, 23 and Heather.

Mary Fisken, a relative by marriage, spoke to Mrs Hyden on Sunday, 24 hours before the shooting. "She was talking about the lovely archi-tecture in Russia and she seemed to be perfectly happy. She didn't say anything about the dangers."

about the tragedy simulta-neously from Mrs Hyden and the Foreign Office. Struan Robertson, a parmer in the company, said: "He was re-markably bright. We would have been talking about him Russians have become used

Roche & Temperley heard

to almost daily gangland turf fights. The violence frequently spills over into expensive ho-tiels frequented by Russia's new generation of entre-preneurs, the "biznismmeni".

For St Petersburg the shoot-ing in one of the city's most prestigious hotels could not have come at a worse time. It has been working hard to promote itself as a possible contender for the summer Olympics in 2004.

Colleagues at Sinclair Mob violence grows, page 13

Norwegian firm may **buy Cunard**

BY ALASDAIR MURRAY

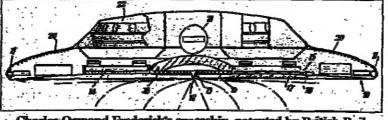
LOSS-MAKING Trafalgar House, which owns the Cunard cruise line, disclosed yesterday that it had begun talks over a possible takeover. Trafalgar, which made losses of £321 million last year, said it had received an approach from Kvaerner, the Norwegian engineering and construction company, which owns the Govan shipyard in Scotland. A deal between the two would raise doubts over the future of Cunard. The ocean liner company made losses of around £120 million last year and was publicly humiliated after a botched refit of the QE2.

Isn't it time you joined Britain's largest private motor insurer?

BR's spaceship is still standing on cloud nine March 1972 and published a year later,

BRITISH RAIL apologises for the late running of its service to Mars, delayed by technical difficulties. But if the flying saucer patented in 1973 did get out of the sidings it would put Eurostar in the shade.

The "space vehicle", powered by thermonuclear fusion, promised economic, high-speed travel to distant parts of the solar system. Anyone however, have risked being perma-nently late for work. David Wardell, editor of Inventor's World magazine, Railways Board should have patented worked for British Rail in Derby, who discovered the design at the Patent a spaceship, but this patent was developed the "lifting platform" design editor of Inventor's World magazine, Office in Newport, South Wales, said developed and amended over a num- in 1970. The full specification, filed in



Charles Osmond Frederick's spaceship, patented by British Rail

planning a star service trip would, that passengers would have been ex- ber of years so they must have thought posed to lethal amounts of radiation. "It seems extraordinary that the British

thermonuclear explosions at a rate of 1,000 a second, providing the smooth ride BR customers have come to expect. there was something in it," he said. Charles. Osmond Frederick, who

British Rail had a down-to-earth explanation for its patent, however. It was all Mr Frederick's idea, and any employees who invented things had to parent them in the company's name so that they did not benefit personally from work done in the firm's time, a spokesman said. "BR never had any interest in space travel."

calls the invention a space vehicle.

The passenger compartment was on the upper deck, isolated from the engine by a radiation shield. The craft

would have been propelled by small

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The straw that may have broken the sheep owner's back



where to be seen in the Commons Chamber yesterday. Mr Davies (C. Stamford & Spalding) had voted against the Government in the Scott debate, and may have been in hiding for his own safety.

Hours before, and early in that debate, he had said: "I have no wish at all to deprive the Government of an extremely able minister [William Waldegrave] ... but I am afraid that he must take responsibility for that mistake it must be made clear that someone taking

be the target of Mr Davies's particular anger; anger that those watching him could see

was genuine. Few can have realised quite how indignant 'Mr 'Davies feels on the subject of taking responsibility. Indeed it is conceivable (though we have no reason to suppose it true) that Mr Davies could have been lectured personally by Mr Waldegrave on the

subject.
This is because, some time after Mr Davies was fined for cruelty to sheep, the man who became Minister of Agriculture was William Waldegrave.



MATTHEW PARRIS POLITICAL SKETCH

question had been starved. How so? Nobody who knows this sensitive and considerate MP could imagine for a moment that Quentin Davies is personally capable of incivility to a solitary ewe, let alone brutality to a whole flock of

But you do not have to be, to be convicted under the 1911 Protection of Animals Act. person shall (a) cruelly beat,

kick, ill-treat, over-ride, overdrive, overload, torture, infuriate or terrify any animal ... or, being the owner, permit any animal" to be treated in this way, then he may be guilty of

an offence". Further clauses provide that an owner may be deemed to have "permitted" cruelty without even having known about it. Others may actually have

We may be sure that this

shire estate of Mr Davies, who is a merchant banker. But he was the owner of the sheep. He was ultimately in charge, so he had to take responsibility. The result was a El.500 fine, a week of dreadful publicity, five years of having to endure baa,

baa noises from the Labour Party whenever he rises to speak in the Commons, and sheep puns for the rest of his Poor man. Picture the scene

(it is purely imaginary) as Mr Davies sobs into his brandy in the Members' smoking-room. Will they never stop bleating at him? The new Minister of

Agriculture leans over. "Ah well, Quentin," says William Waldegrave, in , that commanding All Souls way of his, "I know a bit about farming.
"All of us, in life, sometimes"

do have to take responsibility for mishaps which are not our fault. White man's burden, old chap: On the farm, responsibility need not imply

What hope can a chap have of being made a minister if your arrival at the dispatch box could trigger an outbreak of baa-ing?

Condemned to the backbenches, is it fanciful to

through Scott's 1.300 pages. discovering allegation after allegation of error - errors even more shocking than the mistreatment of sheep - all airily dismissed with the remark that the minister himself did not realise what had gone wrong, a certain sourness began to infect Mr Davies's mood?

Is it impossible to believe that a fellow whose every rising in the Chamber was greeted by Labour bleats and Tory giggles might hear the supportive cheers which now greet Mr Waldegrave ... and

Labour makes appeal to middle classes

Blunkett backs fast-track system in comprehensives

LABOUR called for a drastic overhaul of comprehensive education yesterday so that bright pupils would be encouraged to forge ahead of their peers and the less able would be given extra help.

David Blunkett. Shadow Education Secretary, presented a damning picture of Britain's comprehensive schools, suggesting that in too many cases they were failing pupils. Emphasising that a Labour government would promote diversity rather than mediocrity, he set out a vision of comprehensive schools with "fast tracking .. to foster the strengths of every child."

In an effort to rescue the party's education policy after the Harriet Harman affair, when Labour had to reaffirm its opposition to selection, Mr Blunkett made a blatant appeal to middle-class parents who claim the comprehensive is failing their

Diversity within one campus must be the goal of a truly comprehensive system, diversity which enables schools to find and foster the strengths of every single child. That can and should mean setting by ability in different subjects. fast tracking where appropriLESSONS IN SCHOOLING.

"The essential point is that all children should have an equal opportunity of acquiring intelligence, and of developing their talents and abilities to the full" — Edward Boyle. Conservative Minister for Education. arguing for comprehensive schools in 1963.

"What a feeble fallacy to suggest that able children lose by sharing their schools with others less able than themselves" — Anthony Crosland, Labour Education Minister, introducing comprehensive schools in 1965.

"If the minister thinks a universally comprehensive system will provide equal educational opportunities for each child. he is wrong. There will be as many differences between comprehensive schools according to the area they serve or the pupils they attract as there are now" - Margaret Thatcher in Opposition. February 1970.

falling behind." He said comprehensive schools should group children in sets accord-

ing to their ability.
He also said schools specialising in different sub-jects should co-operate by taking pupils from their

Mr Blunkett, addressing the Social Market Foundation, a free-market think-tank, said: In spite of 50 years of universal state secondary education and 30 years of comprehensive education, the pattern of excellence at the top, and chronic under-performance at the bottom, persists. Too many commentators associate compremoderns. And that view is not without justification in too

He added: "Our commit-ment to comprehensive education cannot be a commitment to continued mediocrity, to sameness or to tolerance of failure. Ours is a vision of a very different future, offering opportunity to the many rather than to the few." The ideal was "diversity within one

The National Association of Schoolmasters and Union of Women Teachers said Labour sounded muddled. While Mr Blunkett was not making a Uturn on comprehensive hensives with the worst schools, he was "zig-features of secondary zagging". Nigel de Gruchy,

general secretary, said: Teachers are very confused. We do not deny the right of any government to make the basic decision of what kind of education system they want. But it won't work. Specialist schools will inevitably end up choosing children."

A spokesman for the National Union of Teachers backed Mr Blunken's vision. Comprehensive schools were never about mixed-ability teaching. They were about giving the widest opportunity to the widest number of child-ren. Setting by ability is a way of doing that."

Margaret Tulloch, spokeswoman for the Campaign for State Education, said: "Mr Blunkett seems to be going along with John Major, saying that comprehensive schools are all about drab monolithic mediocrity. The fact is that many do an excellent job. Many others are doing less well because they have never been supported and because they suffer from losing their brightest pupils."

Mrs Tulloch said the specialist teaching Mr Blunkett called for should be available in all comprehensive schools. "A good comprehensive should be able to provide all of this. But it needs properly resourcing, which is some-thing Mr Blunkett says noth-

Inspector accuses schools of cover-up

STATE schools are still covering up weaknesses and failing to address underachievement. Chris Woodhead, the Chief Inspector of Schools, said in his annual lecture last night. In a defence of the Office for

Standards in Education, which he heads, Mr Woodhead said many schools were reluctant even to give parents test results. Only independent inspection could successfully champion the interests of the consumer.

Mr Woodhead, who has issued a series of critical reports on school standards. was responding to allegations that Ofsted had become a "political poodle". The attacks stemmed from critics' inability to accept that a government department could be estab-



Woodhead: said Ofsted was not "political poodle"

lished "not to defend the interests of the producer but to empower the consumer".

Teaching unions, academics and a recent report commissioned by an independent agency have accused Ofsted of running a "punitive" system.

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knowledged that many teachabout the prospect of inspection that stress consultants advertised services to deal with "post-Ofsted trauma".

But the chief inspector told his London audience that it was "dangerous in the extreme to play to the lowest common denominator of professional anxiety". He added: "I think it is wrong to patronise the many outstanding teachers in the system by pretending that all is well in schoolswhen we all know

Dismissing calls for schools to assess their own performance. Mr Woodhead said: We must recognise the fact that inspection evidence does not show us many schools that are as yet identifying and

rather than helping schools to facing up to real weaknesses improve. Mr Woodhead ac- in a rigorous and honest way, let alone reporting those weak-

Most teachers understood the need for Ofsted to speak out, Mr Woodhead said. "I make no apology for taking the consumer's part when it comes to confronting poor teaching or any other aspect of school provision which does not live up to the standards of ☐ The growing numbers of teenagers doing part-time work while still at school are

damaging their examination prospects, according to a report published today. Research by the Institute for Fiscal Studies found that those with jobs were getting poorer results than their counterparts, without apparently improving their career



the opening show of London fashion week yesterday. Designer Maria Grachvogel, from London, is known for glamorous evening wear

Ulster

Continued from page I think it was an ill-conceived idea that you offer the Government your support for a year when all along you have said you are not entering into deals with the Government at all."

Last night. Mr Trimble met Alastair Goodlad, the Government Chief Whip, in an attempt to patch up the mw. and Unionist sources said that Mr Goodlad had accepted that their leaders had not tried to do a deal. But the controversy has raised fresh doubts about whether the Unionists will be prepared to sustain Mr Major in office if he loses his Commons majority before the general election.

Mr Major, however, insisted in the Commons that he would do no deal if the price was "any given action" in respect of policy on Northern Ireland. He agreed with Tony Blair that the issue of Northern Ireland and other matters of intense party controversy were best kept separate.
There are no deals and

there are going to be no deals." he said. There is no deal with any political party in this House, not with the DUP, not with the Ulster Unionists, not with the SDLP. No deal, not now, not yesterday, not tomorrow, not at all on this process."

> Great escape, page 8 Simon Jenkins, page 18 Leading article and Letters, page 19

New head sacked long-serving staff

A NEW headmaster sacked two teachers in a drive to revive the dwindling fortunes of a famous stage school, an industrial tribunal was told

Elmhurst Ballet School in Camberley. Surrey. boasted former pupils that included the actresses Jenny Agutter and Hayley Mills and the singer Sarah Brightman. But when John McNamara

took over two years ago he found the teachers opinionaled and volatile. Teaching methods and productions were old fashioned and student numbers were falling. Mr McNamara told the



Agutter: among stars nurtured by school

tribunal, in Croydon, south London, that he had been alarmed by the inefficiency at the school where fees are E9.000 a year. Within months. Joseph Schofield, 54, a set designer, of Frimley, Surrey, and Yvonne Morley. 37, a

many years, had gone in a reorganisation.

Both teachers are suing for unfair dismissal because they claim that posts, detailing some compulsory redundanjobs identical to their own, were advertised in The Stage. the trade newspaper, a fort-night after they left.

voice teacher, from Hampton,

southwest London, who had

both taught at the school for

Mr McNamara said numbers had dropped from 292 Mr Scholield had to leave, he said, because he was not a qualified teacher and most of his week was taken up supervising library study periods. This was an absurdity that would not be tolerated at any other school." Miss Morley's voice training was something alien to the philosophy and vision he had for the school.

Mr McNamara admitted that there was no consultation before the sackings. The hearing continues.

Privatised rail firm cuts jobs

By JONATHAN PRYNN

SOUTH WEST TRAINS is to cut 125 jobs in the first wave of redundancies carried out by a privatised passenger rail com-pany. The job losses will mainly hit middle-ranking managers at the company's London headquarters near Waterloo station, although some station staff will also go. Stagecoach, the bus company that took over South West Trains earlier this month, said there could be

cies, although the bulk of the job losses would be voluntary. South West Trains, which operates about 1,500 services a day between Waterloo and south London, Surrey, Hampshire, Dorset and Devon, has about 4,000 staff and there are certain to be further job losses. before the reorganisation is

completed by the end of April. The rail industry has already lost huge numbers of jobs in the run up to privatisation. British Rail now employs about 80,000 staff compared with 130,000 in 1993. Peter Field, the managing director of South West Trains, said the 125 jobs being lost had been identified through a "good housekeeping" review after Stagecoach took over.

Green protesters defeated in bypass court case

By Russell Jenkins

AN ALLIANCE of conserva-tion groups, residents and businessmen yesterday failed to persuade the Court of Appeal to hear their legal challenge to the construction of the Newbury bypass at the same time as the action by treetop protesters.

The alliance is fronted by

the Environmental Law Foundation, a charity. The treetop protesters were seeking to appeal against their eviction orders from encampments in the path of the proposed

James Cameron, counsel for the foundation, asked the court to consider whether the Government had breached European law by failing to carry out an in-depth study into the environmental impact of the bypass. He argued that the Transport Secretary had acted unlawfully when he refused to accept the need for an environmental impact assessment as required by a European Union directive.

The court was asked for leave to apply for judicial review of the compulsory purchase orders for the bypass, which counsel claimed had been rendered invalid by the

Governments failure to com-ply with European law.

At the same time, lawyers for a sample group of protest-ers were using the same points of law to seek leave to appeal against eviction. Mr Cameron argued that it would save time and public money to hear the

cases together. -Lord Justice Rose, sitting with Lord Justice Pill and Lord Justice Hutchison, rejected the argument, saying that the two actions were completely sepa-rate and that it would be inappropriate to hear them together. "It is open for them to pursue an application for judicial review in the normal way, "Lord Justice Rose told a

A plea from David Watkinson, counsel for the protesters, to have their case postponed until it could be heard at the same time as the conservation groups was turned down.

It was claimed that the possession orders to evict protesters from the route of the bypass, granted in the High Court earlier this month, were invalid because the Transport Department did not legally own the land. The compulsory purchase orders were "unlaw ful" without an environmental

impact assessment.
The three Court of Appeal judges refused the protesters leave to appeal against evic-tion. However, Lord Justice Rose threw a lifeline to the campaigners by advising them that at no stage during the legal dispute had anyone attempted a judicial review of the compulsory purchase

Bill aims to curtail powers of secrecy

The House of Lords is debat-ing a Bill that would reduce the powers of the Foreign Office to ratify international treaties secretly. The Bill, Democrat peer Lord Lester of Herne Hill, would still allow for the avoidance of Parliamentary scrutiny given

good reasons. Lord Lester, who is sponsoring the Treaties (Parlia-mentary Approval) Bill, said: No other country in Europe allows this arcane, medieval

Leading article, page 19 Prince's appeal

The Prince of Wales, speak ing at an inter-faith university in Morocco, called for a return to a "sense of the sacred" to achieve a more sustainable approach to life. He re-emphasised the impor-tance of greater tolerance Islam and the West.

Racism charges

Paul Sargent, 35, of Hack-ney, east London, and Wil-liam Browning, 25, of Harlow. Essex, appeared at the Old Bailey yesterday ac-cused of conspiracy to distribute magazines and CDs intended to stir up racial hatred. They denied the

Eviction call

Tom Sackville, a junior Home Office minister, called for drug dealers who live in council houses or flats to be evicted. Mr Sackville told a in Leicester that the Government supported efforts by local authorities to clear dealers from estates.

Liner under tow

The Cunard liner Sagafford, stranded in the South China Sea with more than 500 passengers on board after fire broke out in her generators, was under tow to Manila in the Philippines. A turg reached the stricken vessel yesterday.

Council tax low

Westminster council is to set the lowest council tax despite a warning from its chief executive that it could not be sustained without significant spending cuts. After the 7.3 per cent rise, owners of band D properties will pay £295, £300 less than the average. Milk prices rise

Supermarket chains have increased the price of milk by an average of U per cent. A pint of fresh milk rises 2p to 3lp and the two-pint size from 57p to 59p. The increase is the first since the deregulation of the milk market in Novem-

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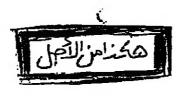
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Director believes 'spiritual strength and wit' are more relevant than gender

Woman chosen to play God in mystery plays

to play the part of God in the York Cycle of Mystery Plays, upsetting church traditionalshop, was picked by the direc-tor John Doyle to play God because of her spiritual strength, wit and presence.

Mrs Ford, 63, granddaugh-ter of the Great Zeno, the music hall star, is thought to be the first woman to play God in the plays, which date from the Middle Ages and are: staged every four years. She said: "It never entered my head that I might be asked to play this part. But when John explained to me that it was an instinctive reaction to my audition, I felt I had to give

Durt case

Mr Doyle said he had intended to cast a professional actor until he discovered Mrs Ford at auditions one wet: evening Mrs Ford whose began her thespian career as Eliza Doolittle in a production of Pygmalion in Malawi, appeared twice in the mystery plays in the 1970s, as Pilate's Wife and Mary Magdalene.

York Theatre Royal for three

like, but no one knows, I was interested in the personal qualities rather than the sex of

"Ruth has humour, joy, strength; qualities I imagine God would have Sometimes I am sure she would be capable of a bit of wrath as well. I so enjoyed her sense of compassion, and the wonderful twin-kle in her eye.

In the Bible it says that

both man and woman are made in God's image, so I' didn't feel there was any problem in the fact that Ruth

A spokesman for the Arch-bishop of York, Dr David Hope, said: "He is seeking more information. He was aware of this proposal and recognises the artistic freedom of those producing the play to do whatever they want, But some eyebrows will be raised

The Archdeacon of York, the Ven George Austin, said: "It is political correctness gone silly. There is a big movement among feminists to feminise God. It would be better not to depict God at all, but if you are which are images of God as

The York Cycle of Mystery Plays launched the careers of residents including Dame Judi Dench and Raigh Ineson. who co-started in Braveheart with Mel Gibson. City councillost £88,000 in 1992.

The Theatre Royal, the plays will be staged in June, stepped in at the last minute in 1992 to rescue the event. It had been held outfor the Festival of Britain. The plays cover the Bible story from the creation of the world to the resurrection and ascen-

Mr Doyle's decision follows in the mystery play tradition of causing controversy. Originally staged by guilds on sites well away from the churches, they developed apocryphal elements and would often incur the wrath of church leaders for their mockery of priests and nuns and irreligious content. The York cycle attracts an audience from around the

Songs of praise, page 10



Ruth Ford at St Mary's Abbey in York, traditional home of the mystery plays

Police say £7m raids could be linked

DETECTIVES believe that the same armed gang could be responsible for three ram-raid attacks that have netted a total of more than £7 million.

A reward of £100,000 has

been offered by Security Ex-press after £1.75 million was seized in a raid on its depot in Huyton, Merseyside, on Monday night. A police source described the two-minute attack as "military in style and exceptionally well-organised". Last July an armed gang ijacked a Securiou van in Salford and made off with £5 million, believed to be the largest single haul from an armoured van. In October raiders stole £500,000 from an Armaguard depot in Sailord and a month later a gang carried out a failed raid on a Securicor depot in Aintree, Liverpool. The abortive attempt would have netted the

gang £8 million. Detective Chief Inspector Bill Morris of Merseyside Police said officers were investigating a link between the raids and were talking to

other forces in the North West, Detectives are hoping that cameras may have filmed the ram-raiders during Monday night's attack, when a flat-bed long was driven through a steel shutter and brick wall to reach a room full of cash. The lorry and a grey Range Rover used as a getaway vehicle had been stolen earlier this month and police are anxious to learn



Part one, in the Magazine

PLUS



1015 for young Times readers. Weekend, Car 96, Weekend Money and Vision, the seven-day television and radio guide

Labour MP sues over 'portrayal as drunkard'

By A STAFF REPORTER

THE Labour MP George Howarth sued The Guardian which he said portrayed him as a "boorish, foul-mounted and uncivilised drunkard" lairs spokesman who has represented Knowsley North since 1986, is claiming damover a parliamentar sketch by Simon Hoggart on a debate in February 1995 about

Sunday pub opening. In it, Mr Hoggart recounted a story told to him by the writer Pritz Spiegl, who said Mr Howarth had bumped into him in Soho one day in September 1993 and had mouthed expletives at him rather than apologising.

Mr Howarth's counse Michael Tugendhat, QC, told the High Court jury that the MP had been the victim of a case of mistaken identity. Mr Howarth, 46, who has three children, said in evidence that he had never met Mr Spiegl and had been in Parliament during a debate Loadon only once that month about houses being left empty to attend a press conference, accompanied by his that housing policy reminded to attend a press conference, accompanied by his

"I feel very offended. It

never happened and to be made out as though I was the sort of person who goes blun-inclined to say if all depende dering around the street on what was in it for her. bumping into people shouting abuse at them — it's simply out of character. I would not like to be thought of as someone like that because it's not the sort of person I am." Guardian Newspapers Ltd denies libel and says the story today.



Howarth: denied he had abused writer

did not bear the meaning alleged by Mr Howarth. But if it did, the newspaper says it is true and cites other incidents involving Mr Howarth which, it says, support the case.

Mr Tugendhat said the newspaper relied on an epi-sode in 1988 when Mr Howarth made a joke m him of a quote by the actress Zsa Zsa Gabor who, when asked for her comments on the condom, replied that she was inclined to say it all depended

Mr Howarth told the jury that no one had complained about the joke. If he had been "our of order" as regards parliamentary rules, he would have been stopped. The hearing continues

Briton in death pact left note to her gun

A SUICIDE note left by one of three young Britons who died in an apparent pact was addressed to the gun she used to kill herself.

herself through the mouth with a Glock 10mm semiautomatic handgun. Beside her, police found a note ad-dressed to "My Glock". It read: "I'm so sorry I had to leave you now - the only one I'm reluctant to leave behind. I'm so sorry we never got to consummate our relationship. I know we could have had such fun together. Alas, too many regrets." Also in her rented car, found

at Conflict Point Road in Shasta County, California, were tapes by the cult rock band Joy Division, whose singer lan Curtis killed himself at the age of 23.

The band's music was a shared obsession for Miss Greenhow and her friends Stephen Bateman, 23, and Ruth Fleming, 22, who also shot themselves last Thursday at a shooting range in Arizona 1,000 miles away. All three were wearing black military-style clothing and are thought to have travelled through the United States since January 6 in an effort to lorge links with far-right neo-Nazi groups. Miss Greenhow left about

80 handwritten pages of notes, including: "I hate England, I hate the English. There are very few people worthy of respect. I have tried, torturing

WANT A CHANGE

TAKE A LOOK AT

OUR RANGE.

Company compensates men for enforced early retirement

TWO men forced to take early retirement from a cigarette in filter factory after nearly 40 years' service won a victory vesterday on behalf of ageing

Bob Tuck and Derek Todd, of Jarrow, Type and Wear, who are both 63, had instituted a claim for unfair dismiss al against Filtrona Ltd. Beth men were production supervisors, Mr Tuck having worked for the company for 36 years, and Mr Todd for 37.

3014 W 31.

Mr Tuck said yesterday: "We were given no choice. We were told there was no optionbut to take early retirement. It. was a kick in the teeth, and age I did not fit in with it very depressing when I knew I was every bit as good as the the men had accepted were younger workers.

to be rewarded for nearly 40 before a hearing at an indusyears of loyalty and good trial tribunal in Newcastle

summoned to a meeting with men £15,000 compensation



Bob Tuck and Derek Todd, both 63, after their victory

the managers, and told that the company had a five-year plan and that because of my withdrawn when they started

"Derek and I gave a lot of claims of unfair dismissal our lives to the factory, working late nights and shifts to facturing. Science and Finelp them out. It was no way nance Union, but yesterday. upon Tyne, Filtrona settled the case by awarding both

and reinstating their pension

The men's solicitor, Stefan Cross, said: "These two men were treated appallingly. Itwas a case of take carly retirement or we will sack you, hecause the firm had decided it wanted a younger workforce.

There is an urgent need for proper age discrimination station, but until then awards like this will act as a

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If you article from the Fixed Rate before the end of the fixed period of 1.6.9 to 4.5% discount on our standard Variable Rate currently 7.34% LyDix ags, and 31.5.9%, a couple (male and fensale) who currently do not have a neutrage with Abbey Nazional, non-makers, ago 29, applying for an endowment mortgage of 1.40,000 on a purchase price of \$60,000 secured over 25 years. 300 manually interest payments of 4.16.389 net of tax relief, plus the final repayment of 6.40,000 control. 300 manually subversely repayments of 2.5% again and according to the final mortgage to a substantial variable Rate will apply, which is likely to result in an increase myour monthly repayments. A charge optimized to the discount control of the discount or Fixed Rate will he morite if the increase of the first mortgage is policied from variable rate terms or a capital repayment control of the subverse of the discount received will be made if the increase of the first mortgage is policied from variable rate terms or a capital repayment to the discount or fixed at the first mortgage is policied from

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Arsonists

who killed

son jailed

A couple who started a fire at their Leeds home which killed their 21-month-old son and

seriously injured their sixmonth-old baby were jailed by Leeds Crown Court. Michael Cunningham, 27 was sentenced to seven years and Amanda McKenna, 20, to

five years after they admitted

grievous bodily harm. They

started the blaze to get com-pensation to pay off gambling and other debts.

Peer's adultery

The Marchioness of Milford

Haven was granted a decree

nisi on the grounds of the 4th

Marquess's adultery with an

unnamed woman. Lord Mil-

ford Haven, 34, married Sa-

rah, daughter of the businessman George Walker, in 1989 and they have two children.

A drunken man who rode for

five miles on the roof of a train

was banned from the Tyneside

Metro for a year. The ban was

announced after Ben Brookes, 21, of North Shields, was fined £100 by magistrates for wrongful use of a train and being drunk on the Metro.

35 cars in pile-up

Police blamed motorists driv-

ing at 90mph into log for a 35-vehicle crash on the M4 that

closed the eastbound carriage-

way for five hours yesterday

morning. Dozens of motorists were injured in the accident

between junctions 13 and 14 in

Hanging offence

A driver who put a model of a

traffic warden hanging from

gallows on the roof of his car is

to be prosecuted after a passer-

by reported him to police. David Light, 51, of Chelten-

ham, will appear before the

town's magistrates accused of

a public order offence.

Off the rails

Set af £650m rail project laris speeds passengers and London through London

TRANSPORT CORRESPONDENT

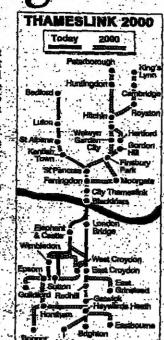
A £650 MILLION rail project that will quadruple direct train services through central London was approved by the

Pancras to London Bridge scheme will allow frequent through services from the English South Coast to stations north of the capital such as Cambridge. Peterborough and Bedford by early next century. Sir George Young, the Transport Secretary, said it would benefit hundreds of thousands of commuters by connecting 150 stations in the South East.

The route, which passes under the City, was first opened in 1988 but capacity restrictions mean that it suffers from overcrowding and infrequent services. The improvements, which will becarried out by Railtrack, will mean that the maximum number of cross-London trains will . be increased from six to 24 an hour in each direction.

There will also be a new low-level station at St Pancras, an extra platform and track at London Bridge, and a new connection to the East Coast Main Line north of King's

The scheme will also make



terminal at St Pancras when -the Channel Tunnel rail link is opened in 2003. The £3 billion contract to build the link is expected to be awarded tomorrow to the London and Connnental consortium that includes Virgin Group and National Express

Sir George hailed the improvenients as proof that privatisation would lead to enhanced services. "Far from

are adding extra capacity and providing an integrated network," he said.

The project is one of a number of large public transcommuter belt that have been waiting for Treasury approval, including the complementary east-west Crossrail link, which is likely to be approved shortly. Backing for Thames-link 2000 was secured when Railwack agreed to fund the bulk of it in return for a El billion verite off of debt before its flotation in May. The Government will effectively contribute about £350 million through a £100 million eash contribution and £250 million in written-off debt with Railtrack supplying the remainder from its own

Robert Horton, the chairman of Railtrack, said: "We are delighted."

Clare Short, the Shadow Transport Secretary, welcomed the announcement but said it was regrettable that the project had been delayed because of rail privatisation. It would cost the taxpayer "a massively increased amount of money" as a result.
Tony Banks, the Labour MP

for Newham North West, the last chairman of the Greater London Council, told Sir George that the GLC had come up with the Thameslink



Flossy, the Vietnamese pig alleged to deposit its excrement in the garden of Mr and Mrs Bray's bungalow

Neighbours kick up stink in court over pot-bellied pig called Flossy

FEUDING neighbours clashed in court yesterday over the powerful aroma exuded by Flossy, a 16-stone Victoamese pot-bellied pig. Frank and Mary Bray claimed their lives had been made unbearable since Paul Telford introduced Flossy to his home five years ago. The animal was said to produce 8'alb of pungent shurry a day.

Mr Bray, 62, told Newcastle upon Type County Court that in summer he and his 61-yearold wife were unable to go into the back garden of then semi-detached bungalow at Tynemouth because of Flossy. The pig strayed into their garden through a hole in the fence, leaving a trail of droppings that attracted mice, rats and flies to the garden, making it impossible to enjoy.

fell into various categories.

Mr Bray, left, who claims to have put up with years of torture because of Mr Telford and his outsize pet

"It started with the defen

ly with the sole purpose of annoying them through the wall of their house.

Then the defendant bought a Vietnamese pot-bellied pig and kept it in an outhouse in his earden.

a nuisance

Philip Walling, for Mr Telford, a 35-year-old computer engineer, referred to a doctor's report which described Mr Bray as having ality". Mr Bray replied: "I like things to be more correct than the average person. I wouldn't say I am obsessive."

Mr Walling, who said the barking dog had caused mas-sive irritation to his client, referred to a diary kept by Mr Bray that claimed to chronicle visits to Mr Telford's home by his various friends. He had given each a nickname, such as "bitch," "limpy" and "pretty boy". Mr Walling said: "You refer here to a scruffy black car and list its number plate. That is my car."

Mr Brzy replied: "Yes. I know that now and what's more it was in desperate need The case continues

CORRECTION

An illustration accompanying a report yesterday on accidents to service aircraft wrongly indicated that the pilot of an RAF Hawk had survived, when in fact he had been killed. We apologise to the family and triends of the dead officer.

Needles offer asthma relief

By JEREMY LAURANCE HEALTH CORRESPONDENT

ACUPUNCTURE can help asthma sufferers by easing their breathlessness and reducing the medication they need, research has found: Thirteen of 16 studies into the more effective than acupuncvalue of acupuncture as a treatment for astimum have

A review of the research, to claimed 1877-fives in the UK be presented today to a conferming 1997. Dr. Johst said. It is ence organised by the Nat. presentedly differencely danger

ional Asthma Campaign, shows that acquancture also feeling of wellbeing, which in itself can improve symptoms. But Kim Jobst, a trained acupuncturist who conducted the review said drugs were here alone. This very impor-tant to remember that assume can be a fatal condition which

drug-based treatments, which do control asthma effectively, in favour of a therapy such as Donald Lane, vice-chair-

man of the National Asthma Campaign and consultant chest physician at the Chur-chill Hospital, Oxford, said there was little doubt that some complementary therapies belped but they had to be of, standard treaments.

dant making a tape of the plaintiff's dog backing. He Ron Mitchell, for Mr and Mrs Bray, said the couple had. put up with years of torture played it repeatedly and loud-

because of their noisy neigh-bour and his outsize pet. He said the case brought by Mr Bray was one of common-law nuisance and the allegations dating back to October 1990

We say the way this pig is kept is inappropriate in this area and allowing it to roam free and deposit excrement

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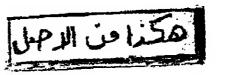
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HE GROUP RESULT

Proposals in line with deregulation

Gaming reforms give casino firms 13 more chances

By RICHARD FORD, HOME CORRESPONDENT

THIRTEEN towns could soon be sporting casinos after an announcement yesterday to ease the tight restrictions on gambling. The proposals re-flect the Government's deregulation policy and follow complaints by the industry that it has been losing custom to the National Lottery.

Ministers have, however. ruled out the development of American-style resort casinos comprising 1,000-bedroom hotels, gaming rooms with doz-ens of tables and hundreds of slot machines. They have also rejected demands by casino bosses to allow people to walk in off the street to place bets. A move that is being consid-

ered would allow people to bet on what numbers come up in the National Lottery, although the National Heritage Depart-Chent is opposed to this.

Under the proposals 13 areas, based on population size and proximity to the existing 118 outlets, have been earmarked as potential sites for new casinos. They are Croydon in south London, Dartford and Folkestone in Kent, Gloucester, Hastings in East Sussex, Ipswich in Suffolk, Morecambe in Lancashire, Oxford, Peterborough in Cambridgeshire, Redbridge in Essex, Slough in Berkshire, Swindon in Wiltshire and Weymouth in

The 48-hour rule, which prevents anybody playing in a casino until two days after applying for membership, is to be cut to 24 hours. The 24hour rule that applies to membership of bingo clubs is

Strict licensing curbs that forbid the serving of alcohol after midnight are to be ended. Casinos will be allowed to sell beers, wines and spirits until 3am in London and 2am in the regions. The ban on advertising by casinos is to be lifted. allowing operators to provide information in telephone directories, listings magazines, hotel brochures and holiday guides. They will not be allowed to promote their busi-

ness on the broadcast media. Payment by debit card, but not credit card, will be allowed and casino operators will still have to convince local licens-ing authorities that there is a public demand for their



Kirkhope: commended a "balanced package"

Home Office Minister, said: This is a balanced package of reform which will update legal controls which go back more than 25 years whilst maintaining effective regulation. Controls are necessary to prevent the incursion of crime, public disorder and nuisance into gambling and to ensure that it is at all times properly and honestly conducted." Moves to

introduce the reforms will

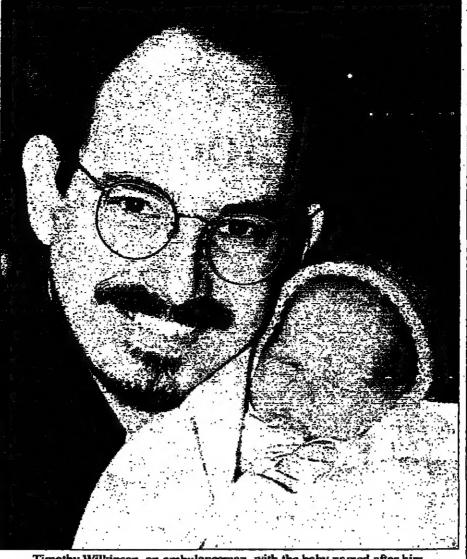
begin after a three-month

consultation period.

The National Council of Gambling criticised the plans last night and said they would encourage people to spend more money than they have been doing. "There's been much dancing in the streets by the gambling interest at the prospect of deregulation: I'm not aware of any dancing in the streets by the punters." Dr Emanuel Moran, chairman of

the council, said. A spokesman for Gamblers Anonymous condemned the proposals and said they would lead to more misery and debt among families. "The Government is opening the floodgates to more and more gambling in

this country." Sources in the industry expressed disappointment last night at the limited nature of the proposals. One said: "It is just tinkering at the edges. The idea of Las Vegas in London is completely wrong. There is no way big US firms which cater for a huge mass market are going to be attracted to London as a result of these



Timothy Wilkinson, an ambulanceman, with the baby named after him

Interpol hunts airport mother

BY ANDREW PIERCE

DETECTIVES leading a worldwide search for a mother who abandoned her newborn baby in a bin at Heathrow believe she boarded an international flight less than an hour after giving birth.

interpol has been called in to the search for the mother of the 7lb white boy who was

lavatory at Terminal 4. Police believe that the mother boarded an aircraft within minutes because the baby was found in the "air side" area of the terminal, beyond immigration and customs controls.

There is a slim possibility she might have been on an incoming journey. Scotland. Yard has also not ruled out the mother being a member of

The baby was making good progress yesterday at Ashford Hospital, west London. He has been named Timothy Ian after the two ambulancemen who brought him in on Monday. A woman passenger had heard the baby's faint cries and alerted

the airport authorities.
The search for the mother is focused on 18 flights that took off from Terminal 4 shortly before 3pm on Monday. A the woman might need urgent

Fishermen vote to stop work during clean-up

WELSH fishermen voted to remains in deep water and keep their boats in harbour yesterday rather than raise public fears about the safety of catches after the Sea Empress

Fishermen and fish merchants affected by the giant slick off west Wales said the voluntary ban was designed to shore up public confidence as

the clean-up continued.

At a meeting of 3,000 fishing representatives in Milford Haven, many spoke of the financial hardship they faced from keeping boats idle. The local fish industry is worth £7 million a year and employs about 1,000 people. Spanish and Korean buyers

have cancelled all orders until the oil has been cleared. Some crews claim they are losing up to £1,000 a day by calling off whelk fishing in Caemaryon

Bay.
For many fishermen around
Milford Haven their only
current source of income is from television crews hiring their boats to film the slick, All have now pledged to fight for compensation from the International Oil Producers' compensation fund. Claims are expected to reach £20

Yesterday as the Welsh Office decided whether to an-nounce an official fishing exclusion zone, the South Wales Fisheries Committee said a voluntary ban was essential to maintain public

confidence. A spokesman said: The general mood is one of great despair here... The long-term effects really depend on where the oil lands. If it lands right on top of the cockles and mussels, for example, they will be killed outright - they

breaks up, then we might be David Bray, a trawler skip-per and local secretary of the Welsh Coastal Inshore Fishermen's Association, said: "It is vital that compensation payments are arranged as quickly as possible because many fishermen have overdrafts

and loans on boats and equipment." An insurance company representative has arrived in Milford Haven to begin processing claims. However, it is feared that there may be long

waits for payouts. The lobster and crab indus-try, which is concentrated around the polluted Pem-brokeshire coastline is worth £1.5 million a year, the cockle, more than £2 million.

Chris Davies, who runs the Walter Davies and Sons Fish Merchants in Milford Haven, said that while deep-sea fishing was continuing, fishing closer to shore has been disas-trously affected. "Orders are being cancelled particularly from Korea and Spain. Other buyers are saying that they will have a look at our catches but if they are polluted they

won't buy." So far 1,648 oil-soaked birds have been taken to sanctuaries. Of those, 1,081 are scoters and 399 are guillemots. Up to 120 birds rescued from Lundy off the north Devon coast are being flown from Exeter air-port to RSPCA wildlife hospi-

tals in Guernsey and Jersey. Jersey European Airways has offered to take 20 to 30 boxes of birds twice a day to the islands. The oil is now

Labour MP buys **New Statesman**

By A STAFF REPORTER

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Commenting on these results Paul Hughes, Chief Executive, said "We are regional, independent and mutual, and have never been in a stronger financial position. We will use that strength, built up over the last 125 years, to compete in the marketplace, and we look forward to

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A MILLIONAIRE Labour MP has paid £125,000 to rescue New Statesman & Society from administration. In a statement yesterday, Geoffrey Robinson said he

had formally signed papers to acquire the left-wing weekly magazine on Monday night from Grant Thornton, the administrators. "Today represents a new start for this historic radical magazine. I am honoured and privileged to be part of a project that will Statesman's sales and influence," the member for Coven-

try North West said. He promised to invest in the magazine and to ensure that a

Net Interest Receivable

Administrative Expenses

Provisions for Loan Losses

Profit on Ordinary Activities

Tax on Profit on Ordinary

Profit for the Year

Total Assets (£m)

Pre-tax profit up on last year's level

Excellent gross capital at 8.36%

the future with confidence".

Gross Capital

Assets grew by 6.3% and exceed £1.5bn

Other Income

Total Income

new editor, whose name he would announce shortly, would have full editorial independence. "I will ensure that able for the new editor of the New Statesman to relaunch the magazine in the spring with the best writers available and using modern sales and distribution techniques."

The magazine was put into administration last month after its main shareholder, Philip Jeffrey, withdrew his support. Sales have fallen from 96,000 at their peak in 1966 to about 20,000. The magazine was founded in 1913 by George Bernard Shaw and Sidney and Beatrice Webb.

12 months to

31 December

5,920

35,262

13,312

3,519

18.431

0,164

12,267

105.073

£1,419.8m



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BECAUSE IT'S YOUR STUFF:

Ulster Unionists deny seeking a secret deal and accuse Government of petty revenge

How Major pulled off his great Scott escape

By NICHOLAS WOOD AND PHILIP WEBSTER

BAGHDAD was meant to be drama. Some 300 yards away the backdrop to Monday night's vote on the Scott report. But as the drama unfolded in the Commons and in the darker recesses of Westminster and Whitehall, it was Belfast that commanded the attention of John Major and his ministerial colleagues. London.

The Prime Minister went into the debate on arms to Iraq fearing that an opportunistic alliance of disgruntled Unionists and maverick Tories would cost him victory and force the resignations of William Waldegrave and Sir Nicholas Lyell — prompting yet another confidence vote. His twin targets were the handful of Tory MPs tempted by allure of a high-profile rebellion and the nine Ulster Unionists led by David Trimble. If the Unionists could be persuaded to abstain, Mr Major would be home and close to being agreed. dry, irrespective of how the

Tory rebels voted. But the Ulster Unionists were in no mood to help. Mr the findings of the Scott report. Perhaps he and his colleagues ever alert to yet another British sell-out — smelled a rat in the prospect of their hardline Democratic Unionist Party rivals, led by lan Paisley, abstaining. They suspected that Mr Major had promised to back the DUP formula for the proposed elections in Northern Ireland - a talks further away. The first twist in the drama cross-province poll based on a

favour populist figures such as But senior politicians were not the only players in the in the Cabinet Office, senior civil servants from London and Dublin were putting the finishing touches to a new agreement on the future of Northern Ireland that will form the basis of today's Anglo-Irish summit in

rescue the peace process in the face of the collapse of the IRA ceasefire had reached a critical point. After a frantic round of talks in recent days involving London. Dublin, the political leaders and Washington, they had before them a plan that might reconcile the competing concerns of the rival parties. A complicated formula involving the so-called proximity talks, renamed "intensive discussions", elections, a possible referendum, and eventually a date for all-party talks was

But the applecart would have been upset if Mr Major had given way to the Unionists and plumped for their favoured form of elections, a constituency-based affair with 18 seats each electing five members to a 90-seat forum. The agreement leaves open the form of elections, merely pointing out that the "party list" form favoured by the Rev Ian Paisley and John Hume, leader of the nationalist SDLP. would take longer to achieve and leave the date for all-party

came at 6pm on Monday night when the Rev Martin Smyth, the Ulster Unionist Chief Whip, hurried into the Government whips' office to see Alastair Goodlad, the Government Chief Whip. As Mr Smyth admitted on BBC radio yesterday, he was there to talk about arms in Ulster, not arms to Iraq. "I went because there were things within the proposals coming through to us that I wanted some clarifi-

Michael Ancram, the Northern Ireland Minister for Political Development, was soon called in as Mr Smyth voiced his party's concern that Mr Major had done a secret deal with Mr Paisley. It is at this point that accounts of the backstage machinations

Mr Smyth said that he asked whether the Government was "in hock" to the DUP. But he flatly denied that he promised that his troops would keep Mr Major in power for another 12 months if he backed their rival plan for elections based on parliamen-

But it was this explosive allegation of "blackmail and gerrymandering" that minis-ters were to make later as they tumbled out of the chamber to face the press after Mr Ma-'s one-vote escape. Shortly afterwards, Mr Ma-

jor had a brief encounter with Mr Trimble, who reported to his colleagues before they adjourned for dinner. At 8.30pm, the nine Unionist MPs met again in the Com-mons and decided to vote en bloc against the Government. One reassurance had already been offered - by Sir Patrick Mayhew, the Northern Ire-Secretary, in writing to

One person looking after the environment

won't make much of an impact.

security spokesman, and by Mr Ancram at the first meeting. The Government was neutral about the form of elections and would leave it to the parties to decide later. But this was not enough to change the course of events.

By 9.15pm, Mr Major was staring defeat in the face. After an invitation from Brian Mawhinney, the Tory party chairman, Mr Trimble and Mr Smyth returned to Mr Flanked by Michael Heseltine, the Deputy Prime Minis-ter, and Mr Mawhinney, and Mr Goodlad, the Prime Minister sought to reinforce the assurances given earlier. But he insisted that he would do no special deals with anyone.

As Mr Heseltine put it yesterday: The point that he made to Mr Trimble very clearly was that no deals had been done with Dr Paisley and no deals could be done with

Mr Trimble supported Mr Heseltine's version of this meeting. But yesterday he was livid about the blackguarding of his party. He accused ministers of reading "far too much into a chance remark at a private meeting" - a reference to the Smyth/Goodlad encounter at 6pm.

"I am amazed to see the Government coming out and spreading these highly col-oured and misleading accounts of conversations that

He added: "Last night, it was quite obvious that some Government ministers were



and put a prejudicial spin on things to try get back at us. It is a petty form of revenge by small-minded people."

The fairest conclusion is that both sides had some justification for their claims. Mr Major did make a modest attempt to buy off the Unionists by reassuring them of his neutrality on electoral systems. Mr Smyth apparently

set his price higher. Even if Mr Major had wanted to pledge the Unionists all he could not have

afforded to. It would have made it virtually impossible for yesterday's meetings with Mr Hume and Mr Paisley to have ended in anything other than deadlock. The summit might have been lost.

When the last meeting with the Unionists ended - at 9.30pm, the government sibility of defeat. With the nine Unionists in the wrong lobby the Government could not afford even three rebels. By then there were still three, perhaps four. Vigorous efforts were still going on in the chamber and outside to "turn"

Quentin Davies were beyond recall. But Rupert Allason, who made a sharply critical speech in the House earlier in the evening, was always felt by the whips to be moveable. He has been in trouble before, missing for the Maastricht confidence vote. Whether his

local party was exerting pres-

unclear. But he was apparent ly looking for a way out. Roger Freeman, the Public Service Minister, gave him a orders". It was enough, and within minutes Mr Allason was being hailed as a saviour by his colleagues. More difficult to convince was John Marshall, MP for Hendon South, who was always a

was brought back into the fold

at a late stage after a chat with the Prime Minister.

As the voting started Mr Major knew that he might win by one if everybody turned up, and if there was no assassin waiting to ambush him. So the propaganda machine readied itself. Even as the vote took place, ministers and spindoctors were saying that Mr.
Major would not gamble with
Ulster's destiny. If the Government had lost, the intention down to a defeat on the Scott report in order to protect the

a success

BY ARTHUR LEATHLEY POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

THE Scott report produced one unexpected and immediate effect — a joint strategy by Labour and the Liberal Democrats to defeat the Government.

It was the first time since the Labour Government led by Lord Callaghan of Cardiff (then Mr Callaghan) was fac-ing defeat in 1978 that senior frontbenchers from the two parties had joined forces so publicly on such a high-profile issue. The alliance of Robin Cook, Labour's Shadow Foreign Secretary, and Menzies Campbell, his Liberal Democrat counterpart, may have failed by a ingle vote to force a motion of no confidence in the

But, while senior figures strenuously downplayed sugstions of a revival of the Lib-Lab pact, both par leaderships were jubilant over the success of the ploy and acknowledged that it could help pave the way for further joint campaigns.

The strategy followed pri-Cook and Robert Maclennan, the Liberal Democrat President, over proportional reprewith a clear signal from Peter Mandelson, a close adviser to Tony Blair, that Labour is prepared to work with the Liberal Democrats on elector-

The teaming up of two of the opposition benches most formidable operators occurred largely by chance. Only as Mr Cook and Mr Camp-bell found themselves stalking each other around radio and television studios two weeks ago did they decide to strengthened by a separate pairing of Donald Dewar, Labour's Chief Whip, and Archy Kirkwood, the Liberal Democrat whip, who held a joint press conference to berate ministers for trying to Scott That all four men are Scottish belped they knew

Balance of talks depends on the electoral system

hatever electoral system emerges for the Northern Ireon absolute issues of principles but on relative questions of party advantage. One favours larger parties, another smaller ones. The same choices apply to any post-election talks on electoral reform between Labour and the Liberal Democrats. We have become so attached

in Britain to first past the post that we often forget that other systems have often been considered and are in current use in Northern Ireland. As Ver-non Bogdanor noted in his book, What is Proportional Representation?, a Royal Commission in 1910 said there were over 300 different systems. In 1917, a Speakers' Conference unanimously recommended that Britain should adopt a single transferable vote in urban seats and the alternative vote this was rejected because Lloyd George was opposed, a position which his Liberal successors have ever since regretted. Labour was then in favour of electoral reform, a policy which was dropped

when it replaced the Liberals. First past the post has been in the interests of the two dominant parties, while strong government has been preferred to a close arithmetic halance between votes cast and seats. The losers have been minority parties, but even when there has been an enormous imbalance, as in 1983, there has been little public outcry. Electoral reform has gained fresh support in Labour after its four successive defeats, even though Tony Blair is still a sceptic.

Any big party favouring reform has to recognise that many of its existing MPs may lose out, especially since Tory and Labour MPs are now more regionally concentrated. There would be fewer Labour MPs from the North East or Glasgow. Labour supporters of change have therefore defended the single-member constituencies and suggested that MPs should elected by the alternative vote. Electors would express a first, second and third preference and the

votes of the lowest candidates would be redistributed until one had over 50 per cent. This would be little threat to Labour MPs in safe industrial seats. The alternative vote is and has often produced a big imblance between votes and seats in Australian elec-tions. But it might produce more Liberal Democrat MPs.

at the expense of the Tories. Different factors apply in Northern Ireland where an important objective for the past 20 years has been to ensure representation of misingle transferable vote (STV) has been used there since 1973 for all elections other than Westminster contests. Under this system, also used in the Irish Republic, there would be are able to list their prefer ences and a quota is then fixed of the minimum number of votes required to be elected just over a sixth of the total cast in the case of five member seats. Votes of the candidates

quota, and therefore elected. are then redistributed. This process continues until five members reach the quota. This assists medium-sized parties which would be squeezed out under first past the post, though small parties still would not gain seats. This system, favoured by the Ulster dorse the current balance of parties and would exclude small fringe groups.

By contrast, the Demo-cratic Unionists and the SDLP favour a system in which people would vote for party lists rather than individual candidates in constituencies. Depending on the minimum share of voters required for representation, this would allow smaller parties such as the paramilitaries to be elected. It might also help parties with well-known can didates at the top of their list. The choice of electoral systems is therefore crucial to the balance in the forum and the all-party talks.

PETER RIDDELL



strategy . (ASI) mions

> Officer-only a case of st



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New deal allows constituency sponsorship Labour to sever cash link between unions and MPs

By JILL SHERMAN, POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

LABOUR'S link with the trade unions will be weakened further today when the party ends direct union sponsorship of individual MPs.

Labour's ruling national executive is expected to back a compromise where unions can sponsor constituencies but not MPs. Any constituency, whether it has a sitting Labour MP or not, would be able to apply for funding from a trade

The scheme, which has trade union backing, has been drawn up partly as a result of the Nolan committee's report on standards in public life. After this was published last summer, Tony Blair made clear that Labour had to be seen "as squeaky clean". He is also anxious to avoid Tory taunts that Labour MPs are in the pocket of the trade unions.

Under the present "Hastings agreement unions sponsor about 150 MPs at a cost of about £1,000 a year. In addition they pay up to 80 per cent of general election ex-penses, which works out at about £6,000 per MP.

The money technically already goes to constituencies, although it is done in the name of the member of parliament, allowing the Tories to exploit

The Labour leadership had hoped that unions would agree to money being pooled so that it could be used to bolster the party in marginal constituencies in the run-up to the general election. But under

has been thrashed out by a working party of trade union-ists and MPs, unions will be able to choose which constituencies they support.

warning that they might pull funding from up to a third of the MPs whom they back, and emphasised that they were unlikely to support marginal constituencies where they could not guarantee that an MP would be returned to Parliament.

However, the GMB general workers' union and the Transport and General Workers' Union are expected to honour their commitment to a 1500,000 fund for election expenses for 55 key marginal

The party's rules will be changed before Nolan's recommendations are implemented on March 31. But there is a tacit understanding that unions will not withdraw any funding from constituencles where they are already sponsoring the MP, before the next general election.

Under the Nolan guide-lines, MPs would have to declare any direct funding from trade unions, but they will not have to declare money paid to their constituencies. If the constituencies or unions decide to pay them additional money for research staff, this will also have to be declared.

Trade union sources insisted last night that the new sponsorship rules had first been proposed by the unions themselves. They denied that

it presented any weakening of their link with the party, pointing out that the new scheme would help to build relations between the unions and the constituencies.

: Unions that have threatened to withdraw funding from some MPs after the general election claim that the extra money will fund Euro MPs or local councils.

The party's decision over trade union sponsorship fol-lows months of consultation with the unions. Last summer the Transport and General Workers Union threatened to block the deal and leftwing MPs demanded a meeting with Mr Blair to insist that the current sponsorship scheme was maintained.

The National Executive Committee is also expected to decide today the future of John Lloyd, the parliamentary can-didate for Exeter, who has admitted taking part in bomb-ings in South Africa.

Mr Lloyd, 54, a barrister, was a member of the African Resistance Movement, a small group of intellectuals opposed to apartheid which was re-sponsible for bombings against targets such as electricity pylons and radio masts

Labour's ruling body will decide today whether to reendorse Mr Lloyd or to reject sources have argued that Mr Lloyd's past was well known at national and local levels in 1992 when he was first selected



Tony Blair, who said last night that greater environmental protection would create jobs

Blair looks to green future

BY NICK NUTTALL ENVIRONMENT CORRESPONDENT

TONY BLAIR last night out-lined a vision of Britain in which economic growth would be combined with protection of the environment.

In his first speech devoted to the subject, Mr Blair pledged to put green issues at the heart of decision-making by a Labour government. The Labour leader also aunounced a plan to take young people off the dole by setting up a "green task force" to

tackle urban decay and help insulate homes.

Mr Blair, who had been suspected by conservation groups of lacking commitment to the environment, also pledged that a Labour government would press for reform of the Common Agricultural Policy to protect wildlife.

In his speech in central London, Mr Blair put environmental concerns in the context of his "stakeholder society". The speech marks a shift from traditional Labour thinking on the subject, which

concern, costing jobs through controls on industry.

Mr Blair said last night that evidence from abroad showed that tough environmental controls actually increased a nation's competitiveness and stimulated employment.

He said Labour would set up a parliamentary committee to assess the impact of government policies on the environment. It would undertake an energy efficiency scheme homes and pursue an integrated transport strategy to encourage bus and rail use.

Tory condemned over claim of ferry alcoholism

By James Landale, political reporter

A TORY MP who claimed that the Herald of Free Enterprise sank because the crew were drunk and led by left-wing trade unionists was fiercely criticised in the Commons yesterday.

Two weeks before the ninth anniversary of the disaster, more than 100 Opposition MPs demanded that David Shaw, the MP for Dover, apologise to the relatives of those who died

During a short Commons debate on ferry safety last week, Mr Shaw told MPs that "alcoholism was rife" among the crew of the ferry, which turned over outside Zeebrugge harbour in March 1987 after its bow doors were left open,

killing 193 people.
"Alcoholism caused the Herald of Free Enterprise to go down," he said. "People did not do their jobs because they were drunk." Discipline was poor, he added. "In reality, the officers were not in control extreme left-wing trade unionists were in control of the

ship."
Paul Flynn, the Labour MP
for Newport West who sponsored the debate, yesterday wrote to John Major, asking him to dissociate himself from Mr Shaw's "unfounded and highly insensitive remarks. Mr Flynn will raise the issue tomorrow during Prime Minister's Questions.

In a Commons motion, 103 Labour and Liberal Democrat MPs deplored Mr Shaw's comments which, they said, contradicted both the Sheen report on the tragedy and later ministerial statements in the House. "We hope he will make a full and unreserved apology to the bereaved relatives of the victims and to those who



Shaw: standing by his allegations

ing and inaccurate attempts to rewrite history and look forward to his imminent replacement . . . by an honourable gentleman prepared to pay proper respect to those who

Surviving crewmen have denounced the claims as a "slur which cannot go

unchallenged.
Last night Mr Shaw stood by his remarks, pointing out that P&O ferries issued an immediate alcohol han on their crews after the disaster. All he was doing was defending the safety of Dover's ferries against serious attack from Labour, he said.

Officer-only courts martial a case of 'social snobbery'

BY MICHAEL EVANS, DEFENCE CORRESPONDENT

THE Ministry of Defeace was accused of social snobbery yesterday for insisting on only officers serving on court mar-tial panels. Would it not be fairer, MPs asked ministry witnesses during a Commons select committee hearing, for senior non-commissioned offi-

The question was po during a meeting of the Select Committee on the Armed Forces Bill which, among ourer issues, is examining whether the court martial syste should be reformed.

John Reid, MP for Mother-North and a Labour

etectora

defence spokesman, said the court marrial system was all about the officer class string in orderent.

Robert Key, Conservative MB for Salisbury, said the

view of Army privates he had spoken to was that courts

(Army), said he preferred to use the term officer corps to officer class" but he insisted that only officers were appropriate for sitting on courts martial because the whole system was based on the chain

iob just as well as officers, the brigadier agreed he could not think of any RSMs in his experience who could not per-

not the whole system based on social snobbery, not justice"?

martial were fixed from the Asked if regimental serstart" and it was ly denied by a team of 13 form the duty properly. who said that although some duced, the court martial sys-Brigadier Peter Currie, director of personnel services.

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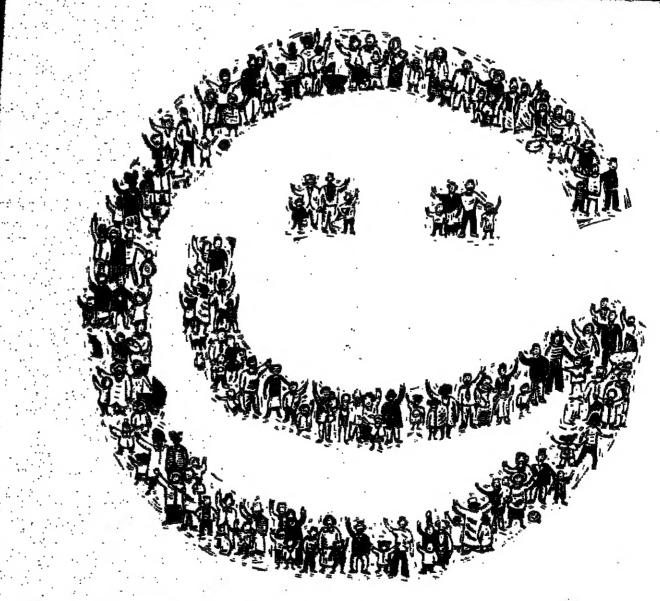


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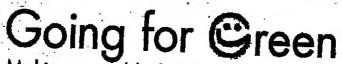
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Shining talent tops hymn charts with new songs of praise

By RUTH GLEDHILL, RELIGION CORRESPONDENT

A MODERN-DAY Charles Wesley has written six of the "Top 25" hymns and worship songs, including the number one, Shine Jesus Shine. Graham Kendrick, 45, from

Croydon, has written more than 300 songs, which sell all over the world. Many churchgoers believe his songs will one day become classics, as did the hymns of Wesley and Isaac Watts in the 18th-century evangelical revival. Mr Kendrick donates much of his royalties to his church, southeast London's Ichthus fellowship, and to evangelical events such as March for Jesus.

His wife Jill, who with him owns their company Make Way Music, said: "It is a calling. Graham writes excellent songs with lots of content and lots of integrity. I think he is exceptional and God has

really used him." The survey, by Christian Copyright Licensing, a limited company. shows increasing use of modern hymns and

worship songs, with their catchy tunes and choruses. Traditional poetic hymns, such as those by the Right Rev Timothy Dudley-Smith, the retired Bishop of Thetford, remain popular and are in the top 500. But none of that style

makes it into the top 25. However, because the survey monitors only those songs still in copyright, the Top 25 does not take into account the thousands of churches that stick to Hymns Ancient & Modern and the New English Hymnal. But other hymn surveys in recent years have also shown a surge in the populari-

ty of worship songs. The biggest climber in the chart is the evangelical song Blessed Be the Name of the

Lord, which is accompanied by arm actions and sometimes dancing in the aisles. Clinton Utterbach's song has entered at number eight. But besides having the

number one, Mr Kendrick

Servant King at number six, Such Love at number 12. Meekness and Majesty at number 19, Rejoice. Rejoice Christ Is In You at number 21. and Jesus Put This Song Into Our Hearts at number 23. The results elicited a warn-

ing from Canon Michael Saward, a leading hymn-writer, director of Jubilate Hymns and treasurer of St Paul's Cathedral, Canon Saward, who is himself an evangelical, said: "Such songs and choruses are hugely popular and some are excellent vehicles for simple worship. But there is a flip-side and

it is the price that will ultimately be paid by churches that have failed to recognise the historic teaching value of hymns, including many from the past 30 years, which give shape and content to the Christian faith. People learn their theology from hymns growing up with little or no



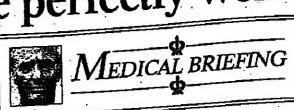
Graham Kendrick, who has written more than 300 songs of worship in what his wife says is a calling

The incurable patients who are perfectly well

report en a patient who had been buried in a terrorist bomb attack more than 15 years ago. Since this terrifying incident the patient has had the characteristic symptoms of heart disease, although a series of expensive, elaborate and even invasive tests has failed to demonstrate anything wrong with his coronary arteries or any other system that could mimic disease in

My patient will be classified as suffering from a somatoform disorder, a trendy medical term that would not have been understood by my grandfather, or even father, although they would have recognised its symptoms and the type of patients who suffer

Somatoform disorders include the hysteria neuroses, now often referred to as conversion disorders, malingerhypochondrias, dysmorphia, also known dysmorphobia, in which a patient takes an obsessive dislike to some rare or imagined flaw in part of their body, and somatisation disorder, the condition in which the patient has recurring or multiple



Dr Thomas Stuttaford

medical problems which have been present for years and for which there is no demonstrable cause.

When malingering, which is comparatively rare, a patient deliberately assumes various symptoms with the intention of escaping duty. Hysteria neurosis is quite different. In these cases there is no conscious intention to deceive: the mechanism is entirely subconscious. But there is some loss of physical function which mimics disease or injury and results in benefit to the patient, for example soldiers who de-

velop a paralysis before battle. Hysterical neuroses are becoming much less common than they used to be. Hypochondriacs, on the other hand, have always been with us and their treatment is a regular part of medical practice. They are convinced that they have

ally serious, or a variety of diseases. Because they are highly sensitive to physical sensations, they are too well aware of symptoms most people ignore and subconsciously exaggerate them, concorrectness of their own fearful diagnosis. Every sore throat is seen as possible diphtheria, every headache as meningitis and every cough as

It is, however, people with somatisation disorders who are the real heart-sink patients in any surgery queue. They are also the bane of those who work in personnel departments. Like my patient exhibiting signs of heart disease, they have symptoms for years and come and go from work as the severity of their troubles varies. Meanwhile, their medical tests usually continue to be absolutely normal.

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How we outwit the malaprop trap

A SECTION OF SECTION O

By TUNKU VARADARAJAN

WORDS were the topic of the fourth Reith Lecture last night. Professor Jean Aitchison continued to spin her "language web" — the theme of this year's lectures - by pominating the human leximultitude of links, as "per-haps the most truly web-like

of all aspects of language". "Word learning ability is clearly inbuilt," she said. According to her "best guesstimates, an educated native speaker of English knows at least 50,000 words - some 20,000 more than Shake-

speare used in his plays. Professor Aitchison, who holds the Rupert Murdoch chair of Language and Communication at Oxford Univer-English-speaking can use about 500 words by the age of five, a total that rises to 20,000 by 13. "A typical university student can use the equivalent of twothirds of the Concise Oxford Dictionary, which claims to contain around 75,000 entries," she said.

But how do we cope with

tion? The answer, says Professor Aitchison, lies in the word web in our minds, "whose multiple links enable humans to remember and find so many words so quickly".

Sometimes, however, meaning and sound get de-Mrs Malaprop — and the meaning gets linked to the wrong sounds. That is why the playwright's character, from The Rivals, says lines such as "as angry as an allegory on the banks of the Nile".

Professor Aitchison's thesis last night was that "each word meer: these strands include synonyms, antonyms, words that sound alike and a power-

don't talk about rank butter or rancid eggs or rotten weeds. weeds, even though rancid, rank and rotten tend to have overlapping definitions in dic-tionaries," she said.

☐ Professor Aitchison's final lecture is on Tuesday, March 5, at 8.30pm on BBC Radio 4.



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FROM CHRISTOPHER WALKER IN JERUSALEM

THE future of the peace process hung in the balance yesterday as Israel's army Chief of Staff said that more Islamic suicide bombs were expected and police investigations disclosed that a supposed car accident on Monday in which one Israeli was killed and 23 injured was an Arab

terror attack. In an attempt to ward off increasing pressure for a resumption of Israeli army activity inside the newly autonomous Palestinian areas, Yassir Arafat's Palestinian police announced that 140 suspected members of Hamas, the largest militant Islamic group, and Islamic Jihad had been arrested. Hamas issued a furious demand for the release of its men, reawakening the prospect of a Palestinian civil war in Gaza. Lieutenant-General Amnon Shahak delivered his grim assessment to a Knesset all-

ciparty committee meeting at which the mood was described by one official as extremely severe. At the same time, Moshe Shahal, the Security Minister, confirmed what many Israelis had suspected: that despite earlier police denials, the supposed accident in which an Arab-American drove into a crowded Israeli bus and hitch-hiking stop in Jerusalem, had been an attempt at mass murder. The driver, Ahmed Abdul

Hamideh, 37, was a new convert to extreme Islam who had told West Bank friends before his hired car ploughed into the crowd: Tonight you will see me on television." He was shot dead as he tried to run away from the car which investiga tions yesterday showed had no mechanical faults. The car also contained extreme Islam-

The announcement that the crash had been a Palestinian attack further exacerbated tension on the streets which has reached a level not seen for many years. It was made public just as the victim, Flora Yehiel, 28, a Jewish settler who had gone to Jerusalem to receive a rabbi's blessing for her imminent cancer treatment, was being buried. "We have to do something about these bastards. I do not know what, but we have to be able to go about our ordinary lives without facing death every day," a Jerusalem shopkeeper

said when he heard the news. Binyamin Ben-Eliezer, a Cabinet minister, spoke out against plans allegedly drawn up by the army for harsh new forms of collective punishment against the Palestinians under Mr Arafat's control, including cuts in their water and electricity supplies and denial of their present access to Israeli hospital services which are much superior to those available in the poorly-equipped Palestin-

ian medical facilities. The crisis atmosphere gripping the country has been worsened by the reappearance for the first time since the assassination of Yitzhak Rabin last November of crowds of extreme rightwing Jews openly calling for the murder of Shimon Peres. the Prime Minister: Mr Peres's opinion poll rating has slumped severely three months before the election due

on May 29. The angry Jews who gathered near the spot where many of those who were killed Sunday died were not interfered with by the police as they chanted ominously Peres is the next in line". "Traitor, traitor" and "Enough of dreams, we want security.

in a related development Mr Arafat, the hard-pressed leader of the Palestine Liberation Organisation, told diplomats who visted his Gaza headquarters that a shadowy group of Israeli former army officers opposed to the peace were co-operating with Islamic extremists also opposed to the 1993 agreement in mounting the latest wave of bombings.

Mr Arafat's claims were angrily dismissed by the Israeli authorities and by many Israeli commentators, some of whom said that the PLO leader had made similar accu-



Voters in the Aboriginal community of Jimbalakudunj east their ballots early at a mobile booth east of Derby in northwest Australia.

Voting started on Sunday in this outback area of the Kalgoorlie constituency which, at 878,000 square miles, is the largest in the world



Paul Keating campaigning in Brisbane yesterday

Moroccari Government to "let us live our

lives and let us exist. The statement

came five years after they were released into strictly controlled liberty. Before that, they had spent 19 years in captivity.

Australia faces cliffhanger as Keating closes election gap

FROM ROGER MAYNARD IN SYDNEY

THE Australian general election this weekend has the makings of a cliffhanger. After weeks of trailing badly in the polls, Paul Keating, the Prime-Minister, last night found-himself just two points behind is rival, John Howard, the Liberal leader.

The Morgan survey put the ruling Labor Party at 49 per cent and the opposition at 51 per cent, a four-point change over the past week. Another

not been helped by colleagues poll 24 hours earlier gave the in the opposition coalition opposition a ten-point lead,
Mr Keating told supporters
in the Queensland city of
Bockhampton: We are stariwhose comments have been perceived as racist.

ing to see the whites of the Liberal Party's eyes." Mr Howard acknowledged: There is a certain electricity in the air."

Mr Howard, who is leading the Liberals at an election for the second time, is proving as

Bob Katter, a National Party candidate who got into trouble for claiming that "stanty-eyed ideologues" were persecuting ordinary Austra-tians, found himself in more hot water yesterday for saying the only children in rural

Soldiers banned in Larnaca

Nicosia: British suldiers have been banned from a tourist area of Lanarca in Cyprus after off-duty servicemen were involved in a pub brawl that one barman likened to the fighting in Bosnia (Michael Theodoulou writes).

The incident comes as army commanders went for a Cypriot court to pass judgment on three Royal Green Jackets accused of killing a young Danish woman in the resort of Ayia Napa. The town has been out of bounds to British servicemen since her death in September 1994. The defence begins its summing up today. The incident in Lanarca was played down by the lst Regiment which reviews the ban today. The bar-

Five-star hotel rises from ashes of Beirut conflict

IN a potent symbol of Lebanon's phoenix-style recovery from its 15-year civil war, the legendary Commodore Hotel, one of the most renowned watering holes for foreign journalists, reopened yesterday for the first time since it was wrecked in militia gum

battles in 1987. Along with the Belfast Europa and the Caravelle in Saigon. The Commodore and its overworked bar complete with spies, Levantine glamour girls and an expensively purchased (and not always recognised) immunity from the fighting outside, became indelibly associated with the conflict being fought all round it.

Minus Coco, the Africa new arrivals diving embarassingly for cover with his all too accurate imitations of incoming shells, the hotel again velcomed guests after a £22

By Christopher Walker million refurbishment that has given it a five-star status never enjoyed in the days room-to-room grenade duels.



Drake, the veteran BBC correspondent honoured for his role in covering the fighting impressed hotel staff as "Lord Drake", was kidnapped by a gunman at the height of the fighting between Christian and Muslim private armies

and never reappeared.
What the press remembers is not what they are going to see," said Tarek Boubess, a member of the family that owns the Commodore and has rebuilt it as a luxury venue for the tourists and businessmen beginning to rettim. 🗟

In the revived Beirut, where the loudest bangs these days come from champagne corks on to one relic of the past in the reopened Commdore: the News Bar, named as "a tribute to the reporters who stayed

Rebel's family seek end to ordeal

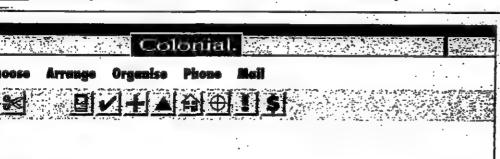
FROM MARK HUBAND IN RABAT

THE six children of a former Moroccan observation of the Moroccan security army general, who died after trying to overthrow King Hassan, pleaded yesterday for an end to the 24 years of victimisation they have suffered in revenge for their father's ambitions. services since their release in 1991. They have not been allowed to work or as-sociate freely with friends; nor have they been allowed passports with which to travel abroad. The six children, five girls Defying a security service ban on their and a boy, who are now in their twenties contacts with the press, the six children of General Muhammad Outkir issued a statement in Rabat pleading with the windowless van from the family villa in the smart Rabat suburb of Souissi on

December 23, 1972. Four months earlier General Outline half died, officially by special, although his clothes showed that he had been shot:

King Hassan's Boeing 727 en route from

The night the family disappeared their villa was razed to the ground, the children and their mother. Fatima. incarcerated in a remote eastle and the name Outkir was officially derided. For 15 years nothing was heard of them, until 1987 when the children escaped from their prison and contacted Radio France International to plead directly to King Hassan for their release. Within hours they laid been recaptured and disappeared until finally facy were freed as in the back after being implicated in up, part of a general atmesty in 1991. They attempt by air force pilots to shoot down, were never changed.



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González losing appeal for youth

FELIPE GONZÁLEZ beamed broadly throughout an hourlong, brittle-voiced speech, delivered without notes or pause. A mass of starry-eyed young faces beamed back at him. chanting in shrill adoration.

If the opinion polls are to be believed, Señor González's Socialist Party will lose this Sunday's Spanish elections. But nobody here was prepared to believe in anything but another González victory.

The Prime Minister basked in the applause. He was addressing the Young Socialists of Fuenlahrada, a dormitory town ten miles south of Madrid. Fuenlabrada is an ugly conurbation of hastilybuilt flats. Its graffiti-scarred streets are papered with Gonzalez election posters.

Many of those present will vote for the first time on Sunday, and will vote for Señor González, but they are in a minority. Projections indi-cate that only one in three firsttime voters will vote Socialist. The rest will vote for the United Left of Julio Anguita and for José María Aznar's

This is a change from the past, when the youth vote was regarded as the exclusive preserve of the Socialists. Unemployment, which stands at 23 per cent, affects the young

disproportionately. In Fueniabrada Señor Gonzalez focused on matters close to the young. "You have free education. You have a good education. Your parents had neither. Who gave that to you? The Socialists. Who will take that away? Aznar."

EU warned not to push rights issue at Asian summit

BY CHARLES BREMNER IN BRUSSELS AND JAMES PRINGLE

EUROPEAN leaders were cautioned by the European Commission yesterday to avoid needling Asian sensitivities over human rights when they meet the region's statesmen in Bangkok at the weekend for a summit to pave the way to new trading and political bonds.

Jacques Santer, the Commission president, joined colleagues in emphasising the delicate political nature of the new relation-ship Europe hopes to forge with the emerging economic power-house of the 21st century. "I want to avoid creating an atmosphere of confrontation. We do not want to be there like former colonial powers," Mr Santer said.

The leaders - including John Major, the Prime Minister, Helmut Kohl, the German Chancellor, President Chirac of France, Li Peng of China and Ryutaro Hashimoto of Japan will meet on Friday and Saturday,

While Europe represented 25 per cent of all Asian imports in 1970, the figure sank to only 15 per cent in 1994, though lately the region has become the fastest growing market for EU exports. But the EU's exports to East Asia still lag behind those of Japan and America, as does investment: only I per cent of Europe's foreign direct investment targets Asia. For Asians, according to diplomats in the region, the summit is a chance to strike a political strength of America, and in the case of the seven nations of South-East Asia, Japan and

In the biggest collective outing by EU statesmen, all but four of the 15 leaders are to meet the heads of ten Asian nations to give force to Europe's aim of forging a commercial and strategic relationship that will balance Asia's ties to the United States. The effort is deemed urgent in the light of East Asia's accelerating economic might and neglect by Europe as the region joined America in the Asia-Pacific Economic Co-operation Forum (Apec).

Britain, France and Germany are adamant that complaints over social conditions in Asia should not be allowed to sour what both sides are billing as a confidence-building summit.

Human rights groups and

political parties are bringing pressure, especially in the northern EU countries, on leaders to broach such issues as child labour. Chinese orphanages and the minimal social conditions in many Asian states. Portugal pledged yesterday to take up Indonesia's annexation of East Timor, its former colony.

The Thai Government, echoing sentiment throughout the region, has told Europe that human rights issues are irrelevant to the summit. The EU hopes the summit can

balance to the economic and clear the old historical baggage more clout with monetary union.

which has dogged both sides of the Euro-Asian relationship. Manuel Marin, the Commissioner for the developing countries, last night summed up the "stereo-

types" that should be discarded. Europeans tended to see Asia a world of sweatshops and unfair competition that is putting them out of work, he said. "The Asians see Europeans as a protectionist fortress with the bad habit of preaching at them. Bangkok will be a first step to getting rid of these clichés." He might have added that Asians also see Europe as the land of lazy workers and good shopping.

On the Asian side, the meeting groups Japan, China and South Korea with the seven members of Association of South-East Asian Nations (Asean). These are Brunei, Indonesia, Malaysia, the Philippines. Singapore, Thailand out at Malaysian insistence. The EU wants India to join future meetings, which will culminate with another summit, in Britain. in two years.

According to Atsushi Tikinaya Japan's Ambassador to the EU, the Bangkok summit will be the first occasion in which Europeans and Asians are meeting as equals. The summit would be important in "promoting mutual perceptions", he said. Asia sensed that Europe offered an untapped source of investment and that the EU would acquire



An officer of the Ministry of Internal Affairs special rapid reaction squad checking a suspect's identity card during an anti-gangster operation

Mobs rule plush haunts

FROM THOMAS DE WAAL IN MOSCOW

VISITORS to Moscow and St Petersburg often ask which places to avoid for personal safety. The unfortunate answer is that they are as likely to be victims of a stray bullet in the lobby of their glass-and-marble hotel as anywhere else. In fact, evidence sug-

gests the haunts of the rich are the most dangerous places. So it proved for the unfortunate British busi-nessman John Hyden in the expensive cafe of his St Petersburg botel.

In December, guests having coffee in the cafe of Moscow's most expensive the Baitschug-Kempinski (£245 a night for a double room) were forced to lie on the floor for half an hour as riot policeburst in on the track of an . armed gang. The same day

beer restaurant in central Moscow installed metal detectors after a shootout in which a Chechen was killed and a British businessman, Peter Somerhill. was wounded in the arm. Rossia's annual murder

rate "stabilised" last year at 31,700 - most the victims of organised crime. In Moscow there are estimated to be about 20 gangland murders a week. Although most murder

victims are gang members themselves, hitmen homing in on their target rarely worry about who is in the vicinity. During a gun-battle at the Sadko Arcade, expensive shopping mall in central Moscow in November, an innocent driver of a Volga was killed as he turned into the car park. The intended victim,

in Russia are Finns and Britons, the Russian Interior Ministry said yesterday. Last year about 550 crimes were recorded against Britons and about 900 against Finns. Muggings, burglary and car theft are the biggest problems and the detection rate is poorer than

in the West. Russia's new gon-toting culture has invaded even the most respectable places. A British businessman recently took a Russian guest to lunch in the restaurant of the Academy of Sciences, the preserve of Mascow's scientific silte. A. mobster strode up to the table, saying he had re-served it. The businessman objected. The mobster drew a gun, put it to his guest's head and earld. Get out of my table!

Rifkind in talks with **Primakov**

ONLY hours before Russia was to be admitted formally to the Council of Europe, Mal-colm Rifkind, the Foreign Secretary, met Yevgeni Primakov, the new Russian Foreign Minister, in Strasbourg yesterday to review the prospects for peace in Chechenia (Michael Binyon

The two men also discussed stability in Europe and the West's relations with Russia.

Rooftop rescue

Seoul: A fire tore through a leading department store here sending hundreds of terrified shoppers fleeing for safety, police said. Ten staff trapped on the roof were rescued by

Plea for Craxi

Rome: Bettino Craxi, the gravely ill former Italian Prime Minister sentenced in absentia to 18 years in jail for corruption, wants to return to Italy from Tunisia despite the risk of arrest, his lawyer said.

70 die in plane

Khartoum: All 70 people aboard a Sudanese military transport plane were killed when it crashed on Monday, 25 miles south of the capital, the official Sudanese news agency reported. (Reuter)

Second ballot

Freetown: Reople scared to vote on Monday to choose Sierra Leone's President and parliament had a second chance. Violence has killed 27 and injured Paul Kamara, a minister. (AP/AFP)

Death sentence

Nairobi: Two Kenyaris who appealed against 10-year jail sentences and ten strokes of the cane for robbery, hoping for lighter sentences, were instead sentenced to death for robbery with violence (AFP)

Pay restraint

Moscow: A struggling Russian industrial plant in the southern city of Voronezh is so short of roubles it is paying staff in Chinese-made bras-sières it swapped for machinery, a newspaper said. (AP)

Sour note from Pavarotti's wife FROM RICHARD OWEN IN ROME THE great tenor Luciano many successful men, she says, Luciano has had a number of "affectionate relationships" in his Pavaroni yesterday faced a stern lecture from his wife on adultery.



Pavarotti: photographed

But Signora Pavarotti took the unusual step of admonishing her husband through a letter to the The latest issue of the maga-

zine Chi carries photographs of Signor Pavarotti, 60, in the sea off Barbados, passionately kissing Nicoletta Mantovani, 26, his secretary. "Thanks to him, I have become a woman," she says. In her letter, Signora Pavarotti, rather than furious note. Like

life. But until Signorina Mantovani he had always managed these liaisons with fact. Signor Pavarotti had now overstepped the mark by revealing an affair which should have re-

mained in the private sphere". The tenor, his wife writes acidly. is "in the sunset of his career" She stops short of threatening divorce but, addressing him dir-ectly, adds: Time is passing for you, too. Euphoria will be followed by sorrow."

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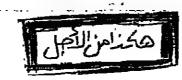
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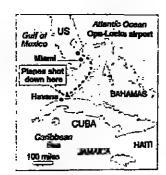
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President ignores hardline demands to isolate island over Castro's attack on planes



Shooting puts paid to normal relations

FROM DAVID ADAMS

WHATEVER the circumstances surrounding Saturday's shooting down of two civilian planes piloted by a Miami group, Brothers to the Rescue, any move towards normalisation of relations between Fidel Castro's Cuba and the United States is shelved for

now, analysts say.
"It's going to do lasting damage," said Arturo Villar, a Cuban-born international financial consultant in Miami. People are finally going to reulise that he (Castro) won't change and he just wants to keep control."

Analysts say the incident was probably the result of an internal political battle in Cuba between moderates and hardliners.

Gillian Gunn-Clissold, a Cuba expert at Georgetown University, says there has been mounting pressure within the military to shoot down a

leastet-dropping plane.
The latest crisis is also likely to affect the broader reform debate within Cuba's Government. "People who were more in favour of reforms and normalisation are probably weakened by this because it closes avenues for greater contact," said Damian Fernández of International

The European Union, with which Cuba is negotiating an has joined in condemning Havana's action.

Cautious Clinton exploits split in Cuban lobby

FROM MARTIN FLETCHER IN WASHINGTON

FIDEL CASTRO has been a major headache for every American leader since Eisenhower, but President Clinton is the first to dare to challenge the Cuban-American hard-liners who demand the total isolation of their homeland until the dictator falls.

Mr Clinton announced several punitive measures on Monday in response to Cuba's shooting down of two unarmed light aircraft, but he refused to sever the links to the Cuban people that his Administration has been fostering. Lincoln Díaz-Balart, a Flori-

da Republican congressman, called Mr Clinton's response "tragically insufficient". Republican presidential candidates also rounded on the President. Robert Dole, the Senate leader, accused Mr Clinton of "coddling Castro" and said he failed to understand "the only way to deal with Castro's tyranny is with real firmness and pressure".

But Mr Clinton's announcement was driven by a belief in uing to reach out to the Cuban people is the best course, both politically and strategically.

Florida is America's fourth largest state and central to Mr Clinton's re-election hopes. but Cuban-American hardliners — who tend to be first-generation exiles and hardcore Republicans, from Miami's "Little Havana" district — would never vote for Mr Clinton anyway. However, hardline groups are in-creasingly being challenged by younger Cuban-Americans

more liberal policy. It is these second and third generation Cuban-Americans whose support Mr Clinton covets in a state he lost by a mere 100,000 votes in 1992. It is this split in the Cuban-American community that makes it possible for him to diverge from the policies of his

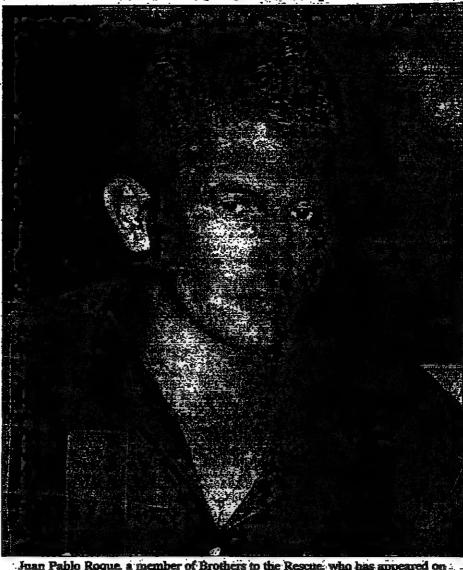
who have never lived in Cuba,

played no part in the Bay of

Pigs invasion and favour a

White House predecessors. Monday's announcement was crafted to avoid charges Cuba. He angrily denounced charter flights from the US to support legislation to tighten economic sanctions and use frozen Cuban assets to compensate the victims' families. However, Cuban-Ameri-

cans may still telephone relatives in Cuba or travel there via a third country, and Mr Clinton preserved the new cultural, humanitarian and journalistic links with the Cuban people. A senior US official said the measures were focused as rightly as possible on the Cuban Government". New York: The United States bullied the United Nations Security Council into denouncing Cuba's shooting down of the two aircraft. despite resistance from Russia and China (James Bone writes). The final statement was weakened at the insistence of Russia, which object ed to a reference to Cuhate "unlawful use of force".



Cuban television claiming that the exile pilot group is involved in terrorism

Juan Pablo Roque, a member of Brothers to the Rescue, who has appeared on

Havana breaches the code for policing airspace

CAT and mouse is a dangerous game. On several occasions, aircraft of the Brothers to the Rescue, the Mlami-based exile group, unlawfully strayed into Cuban airspace, apparently to challenge the Castro regime. Repeated warnings were issued to the pilots, but consistently ignored. It seemed inevitable that the authorities in Havana would finally pounce upon the Cuban exiles who had toyed with them.

Cuba argues that it was fully to protect its sovereign which extends 12 nautical miles. Unlike cases involving actual lawful responses to peaceful aerial intrusions are regulated within the framework of the 1944 Chicago

After the downing in 1983 of a South Korean airliner which had overflown the militarily sensitive Kamchatka peninsula in the then Soviet Union, the Assembly of the International Civil Aviation Organisation adopted an amendment to the convention which specifically rules out "the use of weapons against civil aircraft in flight". This provi-sion was adopted by all states. including Cuba and America.

The amendment is not in force, as it has received only 80 out of the

Interestingly, neither Cuba nor the US has ratified it, indicating perhaps a certain unease about spelling out this obligation in clear and formal

dealing with civil aircraft which enter foreign airspace without authorisation are detailed in one of 18 legally binding appendices to the original Chicago Convention. They have been frequently updated.

According to Appendix 2, intercep-tion of civil aircraft shall be undertaken only as a last resort, using a method "designed to avoid any hazard for the intercepted aircraft and "with due regard for the safety

isation has issued rules for interception procedures, involving radio signals from the ground and from intercepting aircraft, optical signals from clearly designated positions in the air and, as a last resort, showing the glowing afterbarners of a jet, provided this does not endanger the intercepted plane.

The authorities in Havana would have been entitled to use these means to force the aircraft to land. ssuming they had indeed intruded into Cuban airspace in this instance. Had they escaped once again, Cuba tion organisation's council, asserting

planes which were registered in the US. Instead, the council; will now confirm that states are no longer entitled to use all means to protect their exclusive jurisdiction over air space, even if consistently provoked. And, as Washington demonstrated only last week when finally agreeing to pay compensation for having erroneously shot down an Iranian airliner in the Gulf in 1988, Cuipa is liable for damages.

Marc Weller is an ass of studies at the Centre for International Studies in the University o pilot was a spy

BY DAVID ADAMS

WHEN Juan Pablo Roque, a Cuban exile and pilot, appeared on Hayana television on Monday night, it was the first his wife had seen of him since he left their Miami

home last Friday. Señor Roque told viewers that he had returned to Cuba to reveal "the true nature" of the exile silot group, Brothers to the Rescue, owners of the two planes shot down on Saturday. Senor Roque said he had flown home the day before.

The group was involved in paramilitary operations and planned to conduct "terrorist" operations in Cuba, Senor Roque added. Members of Brothers

change. "We have no skeletons in our closet," said José Basulto, the president. US officials say they believe

Senor Roque was a Cuban spy who was sent to Miami to infiltrate exile organisations. If he was a spy, he did a good job, associates say. He even wrote a book, Deserter. about his escape from Cuba four years ago by swimming Guantánamo. The book, pub-lished in Miami, describes his pilot training in the Soviet Union and criticises the corruption and inefficiency of the Cuban military.

In Miami, the pilots are considered beroes for their over the Plorida Straits. In raffers.

Scher Roque disappeared from Miami suddenly on Friday after selling his wife he was going on a mission.

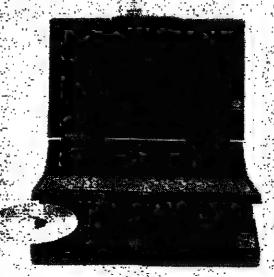
"I am devastated," she said.

"I have been betrayed. I don't know what else to feel. He could have been a spy all

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Republican 'outlaw' shows who is a sure shot when it comes to free advertising

Media bunfight at the OK Corral as Buchanan rides in

A REPUBLICAN outlaw rode into Tombstone, promised to bury his enemies in nearby Boot Hill graveyard and swaggered into the OK Corral. He shrugged back the longblack coat, revealing a glistening Colt at his side, and stood silently beside Wyatt Earp and

The still figures of Frank and Tom McLaury, the Clanton brothers and Billy Claiborne were poised to draw. America's most famous gunfight was about to unfold under stormy Arizona skies. On October 26, 1881, it had

taken less than half a minute and more than 25 shots before. the McLaurys and Billy Clanton lay dead in the dust. Virgil and Morgan Earp, brothers of the infamous lawman, were zured and the "town too bugh to die" became the stuff

Republican presidential can-

key to the town from Joe Per-otti, its Democratic but supportive Mayor, hardly said a word to the assembled citizens and staiked off to the OK Corral pursued by dozens of cameramen and reporters.
His Secret Service detail.

shielding the public from its candidate, allowed media members into the famous. courtyard where the lifeless figures of all nine gunmen stand in their proper places. Everyone wondered how the could create the image he wanted broadcast across the



Pat Buchanan gets ready for a showdown with Billy Clanton, renamed Billy Clinton for the day

didate to enact perhaps the already found the answer and most bizarre publicity stunt changed the sign under Billy thus far in his campaign to. Clanton. It now read Billy win the party nomination.

Dressed in denim shirt and Clinton Mr Buchanan van-

ishing for five minutes to brown corduroys on arrival. change, appeared in a long Mr. Buchanan accepted the black coat and comboy boots. The pistot remained firmly in its holarr and the journalists journalist was ready for his captive audience.

"Pull the gun out, Pat," a cameraman said. Give us the killer look for the camera,

of legend.

This week it took a little went to the polls for its longer for Pat Buchanan, the Republican primary!

More important of course, the prospect of a candidate pointing a pistol at a mock President Climon was a joke too far even for the Buchanan camp. Did he see himself as a latter day Wyait Earp, a col-league asked. I think I am probably portrayed more as Johnny Ringo," the commen-tator replied without a moment's hesitation. Ringo was a bushwhacker known for shooting others in the back during Tombstone's heyday, a typically appropriate analogy for the man whom the Repub-lican establishment views as

Pat," another said, However,

Mr Buchanan for all his bravado in from of the power-

ful lobbyists at the National

Rifle Association, was visibly

unhappy around guns. The Secret Service wouldn't want

me to and anyway I might shoot myself in the foot," he

an outlaw.
"I cannot believe he is doing this, it is ridiculous," the girl from Time magazine must-tered. But there was very serious method to this apparent madness. By vesterday morning every news channel. had used pictures of the cow-boy candidate and all the the photograph on their front

pages.
In just half an hour Mr
Buchanan had achieved what
Steve Porbes, the multimillionaire publisher, had spent a



Bandwagon runs into 'extremist' hitch

FROM MARTIN FLETCHER IN WASHINGTON

A SENIOR member of Pat Bochanan's campaign team ran into trouble yesterday over links to a dinner at which tributes were paid to a man who murdered an abortion doctor.

The news came as polls showed the conservative commentator is splitting the Republican Party and that Republican voters are very unhappy with their choice of candidates. The Los Angeles Times revealed that

Michael Farris, one of Mr Buchanan's four campaign co-chairmen, attended the banquet in January at which the killer and other anti-abortion activists jailed for acts of violence were honoured. Mr Farris. a prominent member of the religious Right who sought Virginia's lieutenant-governor-ship in 1993, said he was unaware of the banquer's purpose when he agreed to attend and left when he realised. But the report reinforced the impression that Mr Buchanan works with

Earlier this month another of Mr. Buchanan's co-chairmen, Larry Pratt, stepped down over charges that he was linked to white supremacists. A poll in The New York Times yesterday showed nearly half of all Republicans believed Mr Buchanan, now one of their party's

an extremist and 48 per cent said he could never win November's general

Mr Buchanan has challenged the Republican Parry's commitment to free trade, internationalism, big business and immigration, but few issues threaten the Republican coalition as strongly as abortion. Just 23 per cent agreed with Mr. Buchanan that all abortions should be barred, while 24 per cent favoured abortion on demand and 51 per cent backed tougher

The same poil showed Robert Dole still the most popular candidate among Republican voters, with 39 per cent support compared to Mr Buchanan's 25 per cent and Lamar Alexander's 12 per cent, but 50 per cent wanted a better choice.

Two other surveys reinforced the impression of disarray in the Republi-can Party. A Newsweek poll showed 47 per cent of Republicans were dissatis-fied with the present field, while 58 per cent believed Mr Buchanan was splitting the party and hurting its chances of regaining the White House."

A USA Today poll showed 62 per cent of all voters saying they could not vote for Mr Buchanan this November and 51 per cent of Republicans wanting

new candidates. This poll showed President Clinton beating Mr Dole by 6 points, Mr Alexander 19 points and Mr Buchanan by 24 points.

There is no mechanism for a new candidate entering the primary contest at this late stage. That could only happen if no candidate had obtained a



majority of delegates before this August's nominating convention in San Diego. A "brokered" convention is still considered a very remote possibility, but Republican National Committee lawyers have been quietly reviewing the rules governing delegate commitments, just in case

"Let's just say that the level of

interest in this question has reached a heightened state," one Republican official told Time mugazine.

Mr Buchanan, who gave interviews to 28 local radio stations as Arizona held its primary yesterday, said he felt like "one large blob of scarred tissue" after all the attacks on him, and said the new definition of "extremist" was anyone who beats Bob Dole in New Hampshire". He continued: "Every great conservative leader who has emerged has been called names. I'm going to forget these insults."

The turmoil within the Dole campaign also became apparent as the reasons for Monday's staff shake-up were revealed. Officials said Bill Lacy. the deputy chairman, and Bill Mcintturff, the pollster, were removed after predicting Mr Dole would win both New Hampshire and Delaware last week. Mr Dole lost both and Steve Forbes gained a new lease of life by winning Delaware.

Mr Dole was said to be losing his

temper more and more often and once to have angrily rounded on his wife, more upbeat. He joked to reporters that his message had changed so often it could be considered the "flavour of

football hall of fame

FROM BEN MACINTYRE IN PARIS

A £20 million project is underway to create the world's first international museum of football in Paris by 1998, when France will host the soccer World Cup.

An American company in partnership with FIFA, the international football authority, is exploring several sites for the museum, which will be modelled on American sporting halls of fame and known as the International Football Hali of Champions.

FIFA is giving part of the renowned Langton collection of football artefacts to the museum. Assembled over 30 years by the journalist Harry Langton, the collection includes items dating back to the origins of football in ancient Greece and China.

The museum will also display soccer strips worn by farmous players, rosettes from historic matches and one of the earliest leather footballs. Visitors will be able to "play" against famous footballers using interactive and virtual eality technology. Great play-rs, past and present, will be nducted into the Hall of hampions every year. Sir-itanley Matthews, now aged I, has been nominated as one

The Paris museum, which is opected to open by March 198, may come as a blow to recity of Sheffield, which also as plans for a world football

French plan Jacqueline Kennedy's fans flock to buy Camelot relics

Kennedy Onassis are clamouring for the chance to buy a piece of Camelot when the estate of the former American First Lady goes on the auction block in New York Sotheby's has received more

than 16,000 orders for the 584page catalogue of the auction, without which customers will not be admitted to the threeday sale, due to begin on April 23. With space in the saleroom limited to about 2,000 potential buyers a day, the anction house is planning to conduct a lottery to decide who will receive admission tickets. A similar raffle will also be held for 15,000 pairs of tickets to the five-day exhibition that will

precede the sale. For a few hundred dollars, fans will be able to buy their own momento of the legend-ary "Jackie O", such as her high-school French grammar book or some of President Kennedy's old golf clubs. Among the cheaper items are a monogrammed sterling silver Tiffany tape measure,

ADMIRERS of Jacqueline three used saddles, one of President Kennedy's old hat boxes and a green stool with an estimated value of \$30 (£19). The maroon suit worn by the former First Lady when she gave her famous relevised tour of the White House in 1962 is also for sale.

Sotheby's has placed a re-markably low estimate of \$5 million on the 1,200 lots in a sign that nobody really knows



Kennedy Onassis: her

what to expect from the sale. The auction will feature some valuable items, such as the 40carat diamond she received from her second husband. Aristotle Onassis. The stone, cut from the 601-carat Lesotho Diamond, is expected to sell for about \$600,000.

The Kennedy Onassis estate was put up for sale by her two children, Caroline, 38, and John, 35, only after they donated many papers and photo-graphs to the John F. Kennedy Library. Their decision nevertheless has prompted com-plaints that they are organsing an "everything must go garage sale" of their mother's: personal effects.

on sale betray surprisingly little about the dead woman. About the most personal lot on auction is a black enamel lighter engraved with a "J", a discreet reminder that she was a secret chain-smoker. The sale does not include any of her favourite Oleg Cassini suits, any sunglasses or any

Fight for Onassis riches sharpens

Athens: The heiress to the could be elbowed out of ber not speak Greek, according to the foundation managing the Aristotle Onassis estate (John Carr writes). The claim masks a struggle

Football, pages 44 & 48 for control of the estate -

worth anywhere from \$50 Onassis family fortune, 11- million to several hundred year-old Athena Roussel, million dollars but not includmillion dollars but not including the Onassis shipping busi-ness — between the found-ation and her French father. Thierry Roussel, widower of

Christina Onassis.

she is not even Greek. Mr Roussel claims liquid assets have dwindled 70 per cent in ten years to a mere \$47 million. Last week a Swissfoundation's president, administer the estate rev-Stelios Papadiminiou, says enues until his daughter is 18.

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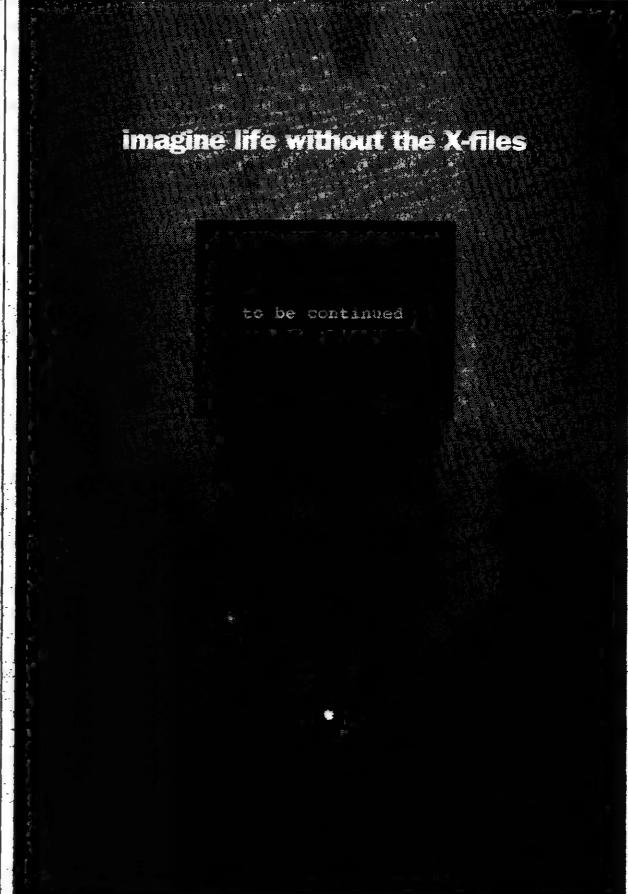
'Tens of thousands' killed in Rwanda

FROM AGENCE-FRANCE PRESSE IN PARIS

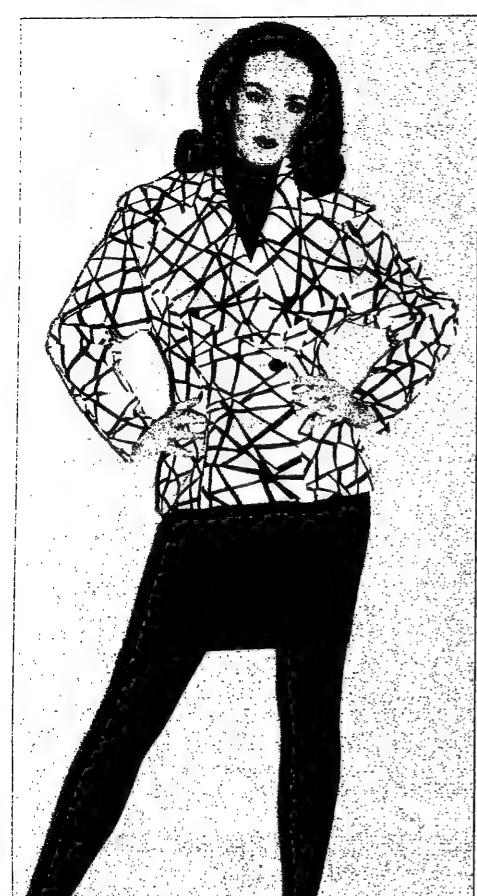
TENS of thousands of Huto vative estimate, have cost the civilians have been massacred

very large-scale massacres, ment has already rejected which according to a conser- allegations of RPF massacres.

lives of more than 100,000 in Rwanda since the Tutsi- . Hutus," it said. Most of the dominated Rwandan Patriotic killings took place in 1994 as Front (RPF) took power in the RPF took over the central Kigali in July 1994, the French African country, ending the daily Libération reported yesterday. and a million Tutsis by the
The RPF is to blame for Hutus. The Rwandan Govern-



How to flirt and flatter



Fashion

journalist of

the year

IAIN R.WEBB



Exclusive: the Jasper Conran autumn look



LEFT: Black/white cracked ice jacket, £650; black turtie-neck dress, £235 halter-neck, £250 Photographs by ROD NISSEN PETZER Make-up and hair by

where near the giant tents

which house the shows. By the

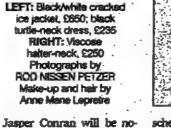
the catwalk he will have sold

his collection, closed his order

books, packed his bags, and will be on an aeroplane head-

"I was going to do a show," Conran says. "but I was

ing for the Caribbean.



scheduled for a Friday night slot and Milan Fashion Week starts on Saturday morning. You try getting a model worth her sait in London on Friday night when the Milan shows

begin the next day.
"Anyway I hate doing shows. I've always hated doing shows. It's the worse thing I can possibly imagine. I like

making clothes, making the shape, putting it together. Since he was 19 Conran has been "putting it together" with

ble flirt, he also knows how to flatter women with more than mere words, with the cut and drape of his cloth. He-ispopular with customers and

"When he designs he thinks about what women want to wear, not what he thinks a fashion editor will want to photograph," says Josephine Turner, owner of the Knightsbridge store A ia Mode, who stocks the designer's line. "He concentrates on beautiful fabrics and flattering shapes so that a woman knows she will

"I believe that my Job is to make women feel good about themselves." Corran says. "To feel thinner, serier and more

if Conran appears surprisingly pragmatic his designs reflect this. They work because Conran knows they will work. He fits his samples on his right-hand woman, managing director Amanda Verdan, "I try everything on Amanda and I look at her lifestyle. "Conran

By this: method he has honed his collection into a working wardrobe of desirable pieces, almost all of them. shaded black. "It is the basis on my business," Conran says. "I walk along the King's Road on the way to my studio and 99.9 per cent of the people I see are dressed in black.

"People buy black because they don't get sick of it the same way they get sick of that fuchsia-striped what they may be a support of the same way they get sick of that fuchsia-striped what is the same way to be a support of the same way to be support of the same way the sa More importantly it makes them look slim, and it doesn't get dirty in two minutes flat."

n black for winter 1996-97 Conran offers jackets which are cut to give curves darred chiffon shirts printed with a spiralling squiggle design (this print features throughout the collection in brown, blue, and cream on dresses, skirts and tunics): leather as soft as a peach occasionally trimmed with fluffy Mongolian fur; and sexy cripe and jersey dresses, some with swishy chiffon or cut-with skirts, others with a waterfall-draped hemline. Conran's personal favourites are his dazzling reflective striped shirts and cracked ice jackets. I always know that there will be captivating eve-ning dresses that I will buy and women will love to have," Turner says, This season is no different, with small square-



A PLANE.

 $(S_{i}) \in \mathcal{C}^{\infty}_{p}(\mathbb{R}^{n})$

and the second

Black and brown chillion printed shirt, about £250; vest, £145; black stretch Viscose skirt, £155 All clothes by Jasper Conran

department stores from July (inquiries 0171-352 3572)

cut paillettes scattered on ballerina-length chiffon and tulle . evening dresses which sparkle like tiny shards of metal.

Conran's clothes are com-

inercial without being boring. Yet over the past year or so he has deliberately taken a low profile. "It's a designer's dilemma Retailers demand continuity while the press requires new, new, new,

Conran says.

He-withdrew from the limelight because he suddenly felt as if he was on a treadmill. "My women's wear was licensed [owned by another company] and I didn't really feel that I was able to do the things I wanted to do. It was difficult to look someone in the eye and say, This is my latest idea, isn't it fabulous!'. It was a good product being put out, but I know the difference between commercial and new. Now I have the licence back and I own the women's wear line again and I can do whatever the hell I like.

"In the end the most important person is the woman whole. puts her hand in her handbag. be it Prada or Gucci, and pays for that dress."



ondon Fashion Week

kicks off this morning

at the Natural History

Museum in Kensing-

ton. Over the next four days

there will be shows by John Rocha, Betty Jackson, Ben de

Lisi and Alexander McQueen.

However, there is one familiar

British name who will not be

presenting his collection.

YOUR HOME IS AT RISK IF YOU DO NOT KEEP UP REPAYMENTS ON A MORTGAGE OR OTHER LOAR SECURED OR IT.



Breast appeal: detail from Picasso's Woman in a Gherrise, 1905 (in the Tate Gallery, London)

Why I won't search for the deadly gene

Breast cancer may not be contagious but the fear of a genetic link is, especially when you give birth to a daughter. Taking the gene test, however, provides no satisfactory answers

my daughter was born. my sister died of breast cancer. (I am not lond of confessional mode of columnising, but it is pertinent here. To lail to reveal my personal stake - if that is what it is - in all this would be wrong, even if to divulge it is uncomfortable.) Now, any such fusion between death and birth must always be tremendously hard, but the unbearable ironies seemed further pointed up for me by the nature of the disease. What had been an instrument of death in my sister's case was for me, or rather my baby, now

And though cancer might not be contagious, the fear of it is. What's more, there are familial links. there can be a genetic pattern. Before I'd had a child I had never been so preoccupied with the possibility of dying young, even though my mother was herself only 48 when she died. But to have a child and to feel that you may not live long enough to look after her is a terrifying prospect. To know what it is to have your mother die - even though I was not so very. young at the time — and fear you may be inflicting all that on your child is pretty well unbearable. And with a daughter an even more awful possibility loomed: my sister had been 32 when she died; I find that hard to live with as it is, but what if that were to happen to my daughter, too?

All this sounds very selfdramatising and embarrassing and awkward, I know. Such private experiences may seem to translate uncomfortably into journalism, but the truth is, my reasons for writing this are not personal: I have no need for the couch or the confessional here. I simply feel it would be dishonest to pretend an objectivity that I cannot possibly have. For what concerns me here is genetic testing. Over the years I have grown most arrows. years I have grown model twous-ly alert to news of the progress being made on this fifth, and I watched Living in the Shadow on Channel 4 last night with more than purely journalistic interest.

Because everyone is so interest-

ed in genes now, and because

genetics has acquired respectabil-

ity and, more than that, is consid-



Vanessa Smith and her relatives have all taken the gene test

ered in news terms sexy, great weight is given to it. One woman in 12 develops breast cancer: that's a big number, although it should be remembered that 40 per cent of these are over 70. But only 5 per cent of all cases will be due to a genetic element: that really is very

small. The difficulfamily that has the netic tendency; then it isn't insig nificant. Seeing those family trees on the television black dots to indicate those who had died of breast cancer, was appalling. All that black, all those dots littering

If that is what it looks like when the genetic link exists, then i suppose those of us with less dramatic familial histories can relax. That's what the programme made

one think, and I don't know if that can be right. After all, one does have much more chance of developing random breast cancer.

Still, that wasn't within the remit of the programme. And since those who are found to carry the breast cancer gene, BRCAl or 2, have an 85 per cent chance of eloping breast cancer, I can see the drive to isolate and focus on those cases. But what can genetic testing do? It still just tells you

horrendously likely - to develop breast cancer. It cannot tell you that you will. And if you find you're not carrying the gene, then you still have a one in 12 chance of getting it. Actually, you have a bit more than that. According to the

geneticist at St Mary's Hospital, Manchester, the slight chance that the test could be wrong must also be computed. I have a great

suspicion of statis-

tics: I feel they serve

the interests of the doctors more than they do the interests of the patients. Statistically, for that matter, the odds are against our developing cancer, but how does that help you if you're the one who does? I listened grimly as the man at St Mary's told one woman who, at 21. was found to carry the breast

cancer gene (or, more precisely, the marker for it) that even if you have this gene, there is still hardly any likelihood of developing cancer before the age of 30 - perhaps not even a 1 per cent chance. I have no reason to believe my sister carried the BRCAl or 2 gene, although no reason either to pre-sume she didn't; what consolation can it be that she was part of that I

As I say, I have no way of telling

my family and, having watched the programme, no desire now to find out. This is not because I prefer to deny reality and to block some of the more gruesome possibilities from my mind, but because I can't see that it would help. The women in the programme who were found to carry the gene opted for a pre-emptive, or prophylactic. double mastectomy. They would rather be alive without breasts, they said, than dead with them. Well, that must be right. And yet, is that how dear-cut the decision really is? Who's to say that the mastectomy will prevent any can-cer starting? All you need is one cell to remain for the cancer to take root, and however scrupulously the surgeon scrapes it all out, it is impossible to remove every cell. Moreover, many women, like one we saw, do not have a full mastectomy; they choose to lose only the breast tissue within and then have reconstruction. The nipple remains, and that is often (have always been led to believe where one could expect cancer

ecause these supposedly prophylactic mastectomies are so recent. because there has been no time to chart the progress of the women who have undergone them, there is no way of telling how rosy the future is. They could develop cancer where the scar is, on the sternum, wherever nothing is proved. And yet these women looked so relieved, having had this ghastly operation. I felt they had been given, or allowed themselves to think they had been given, much more definitely a clean bill of health than could be scientifically possible.

I see, though, that unless women do come forward for genetic testing, no progress will ever be made medically. Professor Ian Fentiman of the Breast Unit at Guy's (and the man I would want to go to if I ever developed breast cancer) says that his hopes are rather on molecular biology, which he sees as helping surgeons to direct lasers to just those cells either already cancerous or prope to such involvement. and destroy them in isolation. This has to be the way forward.

Arrogance has no place at Today

I HAVE today committed myself to the Save Peter Hobday Campaign and am offering to chain myself to the nearest Radio 4 microphone to halt this latest and most ruthless manifestation of age-ism on the airways. We fiftysomethings have to demonstrate solidarity on these occasions. Today Hobday, tomorrow Alistair Cooke. Need

However, if a sacrifice has to be made on the Today team. in order to ensure the survival of Mr Hobday, I have my own candidate Yesterday, my colleague Giles Coren proposed that Anna Ford should give way -- a thoroughlyungentlemanly thought, which could only have occtured to a younger man. Those of us who used to tune in regularly to News at Ten just to gaze adoringly at that

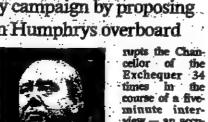
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Magnus Linklater takes up the Save Peter Hobday campaign by proposing to throw John Humphrys overboard

plexion, to listen to those perfectly modulated tones and the positively heart stopping way in which she announced, And finally, the moggy who just wouldn't take no SAVE for an answer HOBDAY could never contemplate turning against her now. HUMPHRYS

there is a more suitable target. The time has come for John Humphrys, the Welsh iconoclast Michael Hesel-

man. His crimes (apart from his Welshness and his manifest partisanship on the occasion of any rugby internation. Scotland) are gross arrogance, occasional pomposity and a distinct impression that he has become more important than those he so savagely interrogates. Anyone who inter-



Jonathan Aitken and acknowledged with some pride by Mr Humphrys confusing the role of the mes-DROP senger with that well of democratic debate." Mr Aitless called it. Ha! That's the

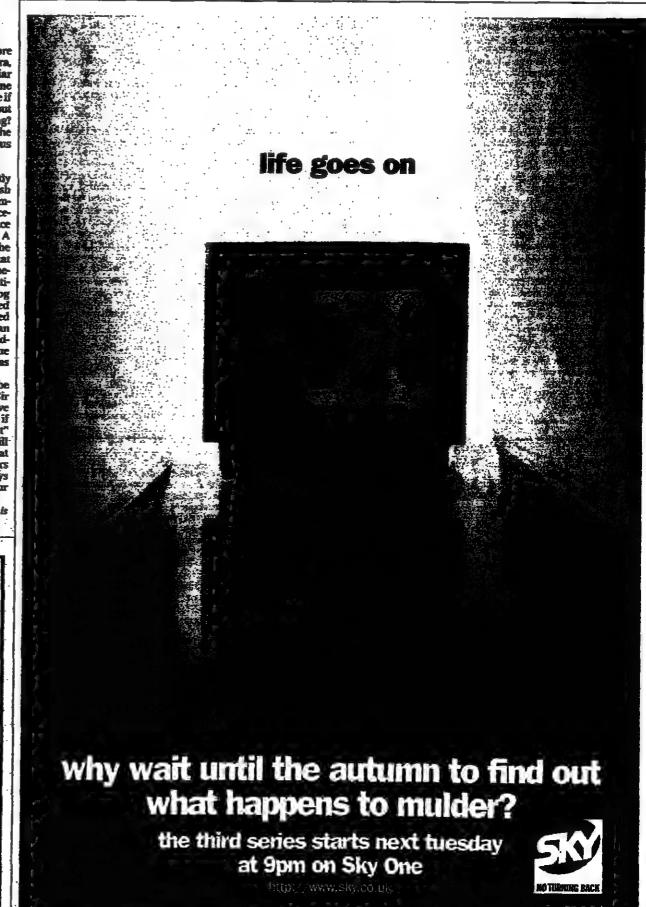
tine, to make way for an older sive, intolerant, hectoring ... just some of the kinder things said about Mr Humphrys. But are these the qualities that gentle listeners to the Today muesli? And isn't there more than an element of showmanship about the whole performance? Those dialogues with Michael Heseltine at 8.10 in the morning have begun to

degenerate into nothing more than a political soap opera, punctuated with familiar catchphrases like "Oh, come on, Mr Heseltine", "Let's see if I've got this right" and "but but ... but". Entertaining? Well of course, but hardly the epitome of John Birt's famous mission to explain".

IF RADIO 4 is the gently beating pulse of the British middle class then Mr Humphrys is an overcharged pacemaker, a serious disturbance to the natural rhythm of life. A man who "approves" of the H.L. Mencken dictum that the correct relationship between the media and politicians is that between a dog and a lamppost has forfeited his right to enter our extended breakfast areas. And a man who claims that "the broadcasting studio is the true political arena of the age" has een in the job too long.

allowed anywhere near Sir Nicholas Lyell, he might have the impertinence to ask him if he was "personally at fault" case, or even to suggest that was mistaken. No. Humphrys must go. The integrity of our political life is at stake.

● Tamorrom, Joe Joseph says it is time for James Naughtie to go



FROM BAALBECK TO PALMYRA

Our newly to be inaugurated flight from Loudon Catwick to Damascus enables us to offer a compre-hensive visit to two of the most important countries ners we wish to two did the most important countries of antiquitity in the Middle East, which have been little-wisted in the recent past. The Syrian section of the itinerary takes in the familiar sites of Damascus. Crac des Chevaliers and Palmyra whilst in Lebanon we wish both the ancient sites of Baalbeck. and Palmyra together with a restful two night stay at Anie on Lebanon's Corniche. This is without doubt a wonderful opportunity to visit some of the

worm's most interesting sites.

We reach Damascus in the evening and spend the first night in the oldest living city in the world and the Islamic capital under the Omayyads. Exploration of the city has to be on foot, navigating the tortuous alleys of the old city is wonderful. Palmyra is a very special place - the city has colonnaded streets and monumental arches but is perhaps most

well known for the Temple of Baal.

The Lebanese are proudly aware that they stand at a historic crossroads. Behind them lie two decades of violence that claimed thousands of lives and brought the country's economy, its shattered capital, suburbs and towns, and even its people, to the edge of anarchy. In front of them is the Lebanon's prized reputation as the Middle East's market place and the quintessential travel destination.

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enter Lebanon for Anfe (2 mts). Day 5 Visit Tripoli, Becharreh and the Cedars, Day 6 Visit Dyblos and Beirut: Continue to Zhale (2 mts), Day 7 Baalbeck, Day 8 Return to Damascus for the flight to Gabrick. DEPARTURE DATES & PRICES

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Alan Coren



■ The loved ones are not buried in the rockery — but it was all for the best

I t is time to come clean. It may go well with the jury. If it does not go well with the jury, it may at least go well with the iudge, even if I am unlucky enough to get Judge Alexander Morrison - for, despite sending Freda Cunningham down for 27 months on Monday, he does seem to have the odd caring bone in his body, albeit, in this case, for her victims.

This case was all about bones and bodies.

It was about the bones and bodies of the deceased clientele of Freda's Pet Care Cemetery in Weston-on-Trent. Over the years, her undeceased clientele had paid £185 a time to have the bodies of their ex-pets buried in smart wooden coffins with all the trimmings. but when these were subsequently exhumed. not only was there not a trimming to be seen. there was not even a coffin, smart or otherwise. Freda had buried the deceased either in binliners, or in nothing at all, though whether she made this distinction from spasmodic twinges of guilt, or even compassion, was not made clear in court. I rather doubt it, since what was made clear was that Freda was a really nasty piece of work, which is why Judge Morrison felt the time was right for

her to make a major career move.

He has my wholehearted support — and not just because I may need his, any day now - for hers was a foul deception, and I sincerely hope that none of my readers will feel that anything but justice has been done. What, however, I no less sincerely hope is that they will feel that justice needs equally to be done when, in consequence of my at last unburdening myself today, a panda from the Serious Pet Squad pulls up at my door to haul me before the beak. The justice I want done then is the one that comes tempered with mercy: for while mine was a deception even more duplicit than Freda Cunning-

ham's, foulness, I submit, had no part in it.

I have a pet cemetery, too. It is the rockery at the end of my garden, and during the auld lang syne when my children were small. scarcely a month went by when something wasn't being interred in it. There was a rabbit called Peter, a guinea-pig called Zebadee, two gerbils called Bill and Ben, a hamster called Sebastian, a tortoise called Morris Doris, three successive frogs (possibly two frogs and a toad) all called Freddy. and a large number of goldfish known only to God - you do not sprinkle names on a pondful of goldfish unless you can be pretty sure which is which. And, since you ask, uncertainty was also why the tortoise was called Morris Doris, since we couldn't find anything on it - or, when held up to the light, in it — to allow us to form a conclusion.

And all these beloved little chums were. when their time came, lowered into the rockery with obsequies of which a clogemperor would have been With, I have to say, the exception of Morris Doris, because it was impossible to tell whether or not his/her time had come, he/she being no more easy of interpretation in death than in life: whether what was inside his/her shell was alive we could not say, but as it had remained inside him/her for three weeks, we decided merely to put Morris Doris on the rockery to see what happened. What happened was that after a further month, he/she vanished, though whether own steam was involved or some

more sinister agency, we never learnt. But, and here is the nub, all the rest have vanished, too: though my children have grown up believing their dear ones to be snug in tissue-lined shoebox, biscuit-tin. or. in the case of Sid the newt, fag-packet, they are deceived. Because after we had interred every one of them. I would covertly dig them up again, and re-dispose of them elsewhere.

I see horror darken the jury's eyes; but it was, I swear, for the best. For the earth is skimpy on a rockery, and I did not want some predator, fox, terrier, cat, magpie, to come along, before the funeral baked meats were yet cold, and leave sad scatterings of hits and bobs upon the lawn. And if the Day of Judgment turns out to be more at hand. than we think, so that the sudden rockery yawnings bring to my family nothing but grave disappointment, well then, I shall just have to throw myself upon their mercy as I

do now on yours. If I'm there, that is, I may be elsewhere, doing 27 months.

MY REPORT last year about the

drunken antics of Trinity under-

graduates after the annual matric-

ulation dinner has been seized

tional Great Court race - which

made a memorable scene in the

film Chariots of Fire - has been

For years, drunken freshers at

the beginning of the academic

year have careered round Trinity Great Court at midnight fuelled

by a five-course dinner with the

dean (accompanied by appropri-

around the court in 24 chimes of

the Trinity and St John's clocks

- was first attempted in the

1890s by Sir Walter Morley-

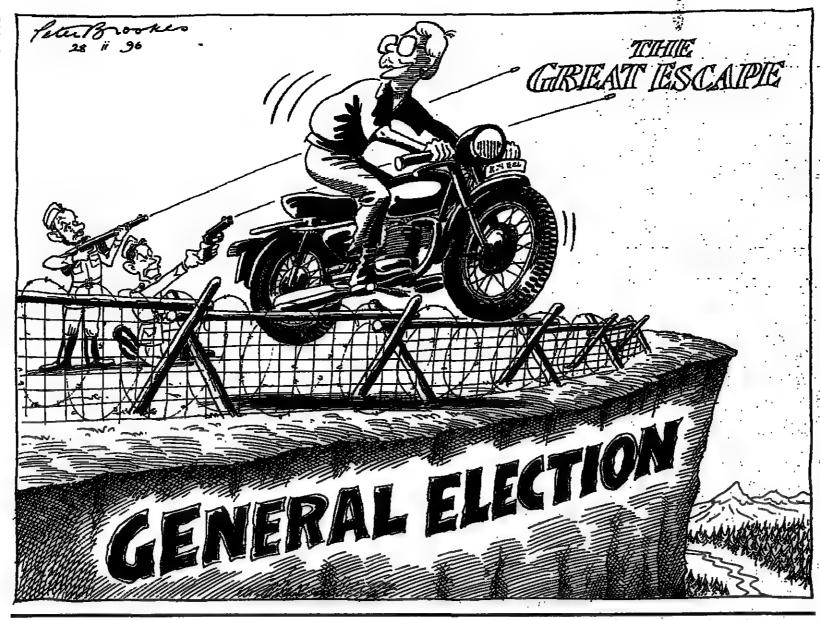
ed the course in 1927 with a chime-

and-a-haif to spare, but the Trinity

librarian debunks the Chariots of

cancelled.

upon by the authorities. The tradi-



In Callaghan's footsteps

e can keep this up for a while, but only just. John Major can drag himself from the saloon. He can adjust his gunbelt, spit in the dust and peer into the noontime heat, wondering who or what spells trouble this time. He can trust his luck. So far he has always drawn first.

But Monday night's majority of one on what was virtually a vote of confid-ence bodes ill for the coming year. Mr Major is losing an MP a month, by death, by-election or defection. The disloyalty habit is catching. It is near inconceivable - I hedge my bets - that Mr Major can survive to next spring. The question is, does he jump in his own time, or wait to be pushed?

Timing is the essence of politics. Britain offers its prime ministers the boon of the freedom to choose the moment of their re-election. Neither Margaret Thatcher nor Mr Major has lost an election in office. Twice she went ariy al ly. In 1992, he went the full distance, albeit with a secure majority, and squeaked home against the odds.

Mr Major now has no serviceable parliamentary majority. To carry him through the daily struggle, he must rely on a handful of publicity-hungry dissi-dents and a regional faction with a sectional agenda of their own. This is desperate stuff, Richard III before Bosworth with a most unreliable Stanley.

The advisers are all for hanging on. That is no surprise. Advisers have jobs and parking spaces to protect. To them, elections are undignified and painful, like road-rage incidents or stories in The Sun. They argue that no prime minister picks a fight when he risks being beaten. Mr Major is inclined to agree. Next year something will turn up. There will be a war. There will be a tax cut. There will be a Labour split. The economic confidence graphs may be turning up (they always are). Anyway, things surely

cannot get worse. Oh no? History rarely cures a political ailment, but it can offer first aid. The last minority Government was Labour's of 1974. Elected with a majority of three, it lost its overall majority two years later when John Stonehouse resigned the whip in April 1976. Further by-election losses led to regular Commons defeats. requiring "rectifying" votes of confi-dence. The Government survived one such vote in March 1977 only by forging the Lib-Lab pact. Humiliating defeats

A general election in October is the only way to prevent British politics from deteriorating into a subset of Ulster's

continued, including one over the Fi-nance Bill. James Callaghan refused to resign because, although he could barely govern, the Liberals kept him on life-support through confidence votes.

That pact collapsed in May 1978 after weekly backstairs squabbles between Treasury ministers and Liberals seeking to veto Labour policies. By autumn that year, an early general election was confidently expected, and the Government's polling performance promptly started to recover — though Mr Callaghan foolish-ly turned against an early election after reading one adverse result in September. Both Gallup and NOP actually put

October and November 1978. Mr Callaghan struggled on. In a foretaste of Mr Major's weekly assigna-tions with Ulster Unionists, Mr Callaghan bribed them with five more Ulster seats. (Mr Major has so far offered only a select

committee.) The Scots and Welsh nationalists were given devolution referen-dums. The Government stumbled into winter. That winter was one of the most mis-

erable in recent times, for the Government, for Labour and for the country. Almost every substantive act of government was shredded by the Commons, precipitating hair-raising confidence votes. A pact is not a whip. It is a means of survival, not a discipline of government. In the "winter of discontent" public sector workers forced Mr Callaghan to abandon pay restraint. On March 28, 1979, with the devolution referendums lost, the nationalists clicked their fingers and ousted the Cabinet by one vote. By then the Government had lost 10 percentage points at the polls in six months. Nothing did Labour more damage than that last desperate year of clinging to office.
The message of 1978 is that the crises.

the compromises, the indignities of trying to hold power when the parliamentary legitimacy of a government's man-date has expired are electorally counter-productive. Mr. Major now faces an awful year. Party managers tick off the horrors to come: May local elections, a frenzied June in the Commons, autumn leadership mutterings, a factional party conference, the Euro-summit, a seething

public sector pay round.
With each by-election and each defection, those on the fringes of Mr Major's parliamentary support become more dangerously potent. Tory backbenchers no longer calculate whether or not Mr Major is more likely to win this year or next. Few believe he can win at all. They

> whether their own seats are more winnable this year or next. The message of 1978 is. this year. There are a dozen Alan Howarths, Emma Nicholsons and Peter Thurnhams roaming beyond the reach of the whips.

men and women with no hope of office, no admiration for Mr Major and nothing to lose but their seats. That seems to bring a rush of conviction to the head, aided by an intoxicating dose of publicity.

his is the year of the Euro-sceptics. Bill Cash and his friends will never again have so much leverage as a party within a party. It would be surprising if they did not exploit their brief power to the full as Maastricht is renegotiated. For the first and probably last times in their careers, such figures at Rupert Aliason, Tony Marlow and Richard Shepherd are powers in the land. Even Quentin Davies has tasted glory this week. They offer Mr Major a daily round of threats, bribes and late-night interviews, complete with wives, children and television

Mr Major desperately needs solid allies against such marauders. He has none. He does not even have Mr Callag-han's Scottish and Welsh fair-weather

friends. He has only those "grim spires", the Ulster Unionists. Of these 12, nine owe allegiance to David Trimble, while three are Democratic Unionists round Ian Paisley, fierce opponents of Mr Trimble. As we saw on Monday night, the politics of Britain has become a sub-set of the politics of Ulster. The ancient quarrel is once more stamping its foot on the earth of Westminster. Be it railways. or healthcare or school reform or Europe or tax changes, the Unionists will be demanding their say and their way if government business is to be done.

I find it hard to imagine a worse year in which to grant Ulster Unionism such power. If there is any jewel left in Mr Major's crown it is the evenhandedness of his Ulster initiative. That evenhand-edness was boldly sustained on Monday night, at risk of catastrophe. Mr Major showed himself a man of principle. When forced to choose between the Trimble faction and the bizarre Hume-Paisley coalition on an arcane point of Scott affair degenerated. - he rightly decided against underhand dealing at

Such fastidiousness is not going to keep Mr Major in office for another 14 months, Mr Trimble is not an old Tory at heart, like his predecessor as Unionist leader, James Molyneaux. He shares with his deputy, John Taylor, a distrust of this Government and its devious dealings with Dublin. He sees Tories as usurpers of Northern Ireland's constitution, men who shake hands with IRA. gunmen. Mr Trimble is clever and will want every pound of flesh from Mr Major. But he is not an ally. Sooner or later he will reckon that Mr Major's time is up and Mr Blair's has come -Monday suggests it may be sooner. Besides, a Government whose fate turns on Aldergrove airport being free of fog on the night is never secure.

Mr Major will be pushed to the polls before the year is out. His interest lies in taking the initiative. He does best when defying the soothsayers and going for broke. He did so with his style of campaigning in 1992 and again in his leadership vote last July. A June election would probably be too soon after the certainly poor local elections. On the other hand, October offers a summer of preparation, an early, juicy Budget and a pre-election conference. Mr Major can bring out his soapbox and enjoy what he does best. He can reassert control over events. All else is chaos.

Owed to The Times. money man by Peter Stothard

t the beginning of each year, the Editor's office at The Times receives a note from the archivist suggesting some journalistic anniversa-ries for celebration in the months ahead. For 1996, these included the quartercentenary of Bernard Levin joining our staff, the 75th birthday of our prototype Business News, The Times Imperial and Foreign Trade and Engineering Supplement, and the 25 years at Times Newspapers of our redoubtable managing editor, Peter Roberts. Almost at the end of the archivist's list

(between the first female nude in The Times. 1971, and our famous report on the death of Napoleon, 1821) there came the suicide of a man with a strange middle name. I looked down at the paper again. I had never heard of him. Shame on me, as it turns out. Thomas Massa Alsager, who died 150 years ago this year, was not only one of those 19th-century newspaper figures whose versatility puts every one of us, his modern successors, to shame; he was also midwife to John Keats's sonnet On First Looking into Chapman's Homer. my own favourite poem, as it happens. and a work that has never been bettered as an expression of what seeing some thing for the first time — the very essence

of journalism — is all about. In 1816 (180 years ago, as it happens, although 180th anniversaries do not figure on our archivist's list) Keats looked for the first time into a translation of Homer's Iliad and Odyssey by George Chapman, the Jacobean poet and dramatist. Chapman's grand barbarism, as has often been recounted, was in shocking contrast to the refined Homeric lines of Alexander Pope, the "smooth little toys" on which Keats and his friends had been brought up.

Chapman's Homer lit a beacon for Romantic poetry. The actual copy of Chapman's Homer, the one which made possible this transforming work for Keats and for English letters, belonged

to Alsager of The Times.

This great man's primary job was as business manager. If he were to return to us at Wapping today, he would go first to the editorial accounts and personnel papers now kept by his fellow anniversary-sharer, Mr Roberts: he would be delighted, I like to think, in the thirtyfold increase in circulation since his day.

But he would also try to borrow some of the space in the newspaper that Mr Levin and Richard Morrison devote to musical opinions and which Anatole Kaletsky and Melvyn Marckus command for economics and the City. He was a writer who would take one look at our seven-section edition on a Saturday, smile when told that its circulation was over 800,000 copies and then ask what column, his concert review or his help with drumming up some pension-fund, advertisements? He was a newspaper man who recognised few bounds.

Alsager was a clothworker by birth. His colleagues used to ask why dealing in canvas, or "floorcioth", as it was known, gave him a right to talk about art. But he did write about art, became a close friend of Charles Lamb, learnt to play almost every instrument in the orchestra, and sponsored the first English performance of Beethoven's Mass in D. He also founded The Times's City office and invented revolutionary methods of filing copy from home and foreign parts.

Te at The Times today still probably owe him a great deal. Inasmuch as anyone deserves a 150th year remembrance, Alsager does. Yet the anniversary of his death is the wrong anniversary — and not just because he died by slitting his own throat after accusations that he was

over-creative with the accounts. His nerves had previously been made of packthread ... proof against weather, ingratitude, meat-under-done, every weapon of fate", according to a letter written to one of his other enthusiasms, William Wordsworth. But, as D.E. Wickham wrote in a 1981 essay for the Charles Lamb Society, this strong protective "impassibility" deserted him

after his disgrace. Alsager had a miserable end, dying nine days after he had first gashed his wrist and throat. He was 67. It was 30 years since he had provided the 1616 🖣 folio of Chapman which, with its "loud and bold" voice, launched Keats into the most creative phase of his life and inspired millions to see what is stunning

and new in the world around them. That was still an era when, but for book collectors, amateurs who stood astride the worlds of finance and art. there could often be no access to texts of books. Alsager's folio, as Robert Gittings describes in his 1968 biography of Keats. was even then too valuable to be risked among the thieves' kitchens of Southwark, and had to be read in an all-night session in the safety of Clerkenwell.

"Much have I travell'd in the Realms of Gold . . . ", wrote Keats on his return home, and the rest is literary history. As soon as he had looked into Chapman's Homer, he had a new language, a new confidence to look out into the countryside of his mind.

TAK 🛍

70.00

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Services (CS)

Then felt I like some Watcher of the Skies When a new Planet swims into his Ken; Or like stout Cortez when with Eagle eyes He stard at the Pacific — and all his Men Look'd at each other with a wild surmise -

Silent, upon a Peak in Darien. Of course, as critics have never ceased to point out, Keats made a mistake in his ... rapid, bleary-eyed composition after a hard Clerkenwell night. The Pacific was not discovered by Cortez but by Balboa. We can be sure that Alsager would have been understanding of this: his was a life in which vital accuracy did sometimes have to be sacrificed to speed, a ". P·H·S lave to be sacrusced to speed, a great life in Times journalism that ended 150 years ago.

The author is Editor of The Times.



Channel 4's girls playing just plain silly

Burghley as is often related. There

ate liquid refreshment). is no documentation to support No longer. Last autumn's casualties were so numerous, with a The changes have yet to be announced by the college, but students point out that the authorhandful taken to hospital - including one poor chap with a ities will have problems. "If there's severed artery - that the college one way to get drunken students authorities plan to water down the event and offer a daytime running round the court in the middle of the night," said one. "it alternative. The race - an attempt to run is to try to ban us from doing it."

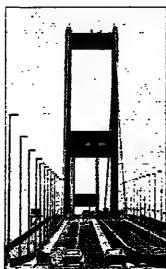
Fire doused

Stressed out

I HOPE that Virginia Bottomley Fletcher. Lord Burghley completlikes motorway bridges. In her capacity as the nation's cultural monitor, the Heritage Secretary, along with English Heritage, is Fire myth. "I am 99 per cent sure apparently proposing to preserve that Harold Abrahams didn't race

a selection of pre-stressed concrete monsters for a grateful posterity. She will announce tomorrow a list of postwar buildings that she and her experts believe should be listed as of historical importance.

A 1960s bridge over the Al near Newark and a footbridge over the A2 near Dartford in Kent merit Grade II listing. Only two structures have been put up for Grade I listing - both concrete bridges. Architects point out that one of them, the Severn Bridge, has been half-closed for most of its life. "I



Severn Bridge was that it never worked," said one. Letters, pray? DAME BARBARA CARTLAND

thought the whole idea behind the

has lost some of her pink glow with the news that her secretary of more than 22 years is to leave her service. Hazel Clarke has decided she wants to retire at the same time as her husband, and the 94vear-old queen of romantic fiction

is distraught. "It's ghastly, she had to choose between me and her husband and of course she had to be with her husband, but I'm absolutely broken-hearted. Somebody else is being trained up but you can't replace that sort of experience," says the great Dame, adding plangently: "Sne's my brain."

Clarke explains that letter-writing will be foremost among the new girl's tasks. Mostly the difficulty is remembering names. She receives 30,000 letters a year, all of which receive a reply."

 Dame Muriel Spark, author of The Prime of Miss Jean Brodie, admits to an eccentric writing process. In BBC's Bookmark, she admits that she cannot bear people touching her pens. "I always use these black Biro pens." she reveals. "I get a new set for every



book. If someone touches one of these pens . . . I throw that out of the window. Nobody is allowed to touch my pens. I lock them up."

Playgirls

THE TRENDY suits at Channel 4 are sharpening their knives in anticipation of blood. After a string of on-screen quips and stunts that have infuriated his bosses, Chris Evans, the ginger-crowned broadcaster, is to receive a vicious character assassination on another

Channel 4 programme. A sketch on his TFI Friday show, in which a death certificate was handed out for Channel 4's controversial Girlie Show, has sent the station's hierarchy into

orbit. Now the anarchic presenters of The Girlie Show are to be avenged by nominating him for a most unpleasant weekly sobriquet. When the supermodel Naomi Campbell received this juvenile treatment, she was reported to be so incensed she was considering suing. Sting and the orange-skinned magician David Copperfield have also been

● A legal firm in Leeds, formerly known as Godlove Pearlman, insists it is not overstating its rela-tionship with the Almighty after changing its name to Godloves



TALKS AND TERRORISTS

The IRA should not have a veto on progress

Hurried telephone calls and late-night ments will even deliver another ceasefire. negotiations have paved the way for today's summit between the British and Irish Prime Ministers. Last November a similar spasm of high-intensity diplomacy apparently saved the peace process but, sadly, it only delayed the republicans' return to violence. High hopes are invested in today's talks. Agreement across the Irish Sea is welcome. John Major and the Taoiseach, John Bruton, have worked strenuously to bring peace closer. But the fundamental reality is that whatever Sinn Fein's words, the IRA has shown by its actions that Irish republicans are happier bombing than talking.

Martin McGuinness, Sinn Fein's spokes-

man, has held out the prospect of another. IRA ceasefire if a date can be set, without preconditions, for all-party talks on Ulster's future. The two Governments, understandably anxious to stop the killing have swallowed hard and tried to find a mechanism which will allow them to set a date for talks and undermine the republicans' own justification for the IRA's murderous campaign. Mr Major and Mr Bruton have been flexible and ingenious in trying to clear a path to talks but doubts remain that their efforts will see the republicans permanently abandon the gun

The eagerness of the two Governments to provide a date for talks which Mr McGuinness can pencil into the diaries of his allies on the IRA army council may well encourage inflexible elements within republican ranks. They could think that a welltimed bomb in London had done more to push Mr Major in their direction than months of patient petitioning of civil servants. Hardiners would certainly be inclined to argue that any future obstacles to securing republican ends were better blown out of the way than inched around. A ceasetire bought by fortifying the IRA's. belief in violence would be a fragile thing.

There is no guarantee that the scheme apparently favoured by the two GovernSinn Fein has declared itself implacably opposed to elections before talks. The two Governments propose intensive discussions on the form of elections to a peace convention but agree that elections must precede talks. Although London and Dublin have tried to accommodate Sinn Fein's demands for rapid inovement to talks they have to proceed by an electoral road in order to address the concerns of Northern Ireland's Unionist majority. The insistence on elections could be construed by Sinn Fein, if it wished, as an unacceptable precondition.

There are many within republican ranks

only too anxious to advance with the

Armalite and bypass the ballot box. Intelligence reports suggest the IRA is prepared to continue its campaign for at least another year. It is believed that it wants to wait until after the elections which are due in the US, the United Kingdom and the Irish Republic. Irish republicans believe those elections will deliver governments more inclined to talk on their terms. If the IRA has determined on that course, and much operational evidence suggests that it has, then its leaders will find reasons to reject the current overture. Even if some elements within Sinn Fein see merit in a ceasefire, they would not press for one in the face of opposition from significant sections of the republican movement. Republicans would rather risk the wrath of the rest of the world than see themselves split.

But if a proper realism about republican motives is maintained there are, still grounds for optimism. Both Governments and all the constitutional parties in Ulster now accept the validity of elections to a body which will allow them to thrash out the Province's future. The success of such a convention should not depend on securing republican approval. Ulster's democrats should show they can continue to work together. The men of violence should not have a veto on progress.

TRICKS OR TREATIES

Parliament should give consent to international agreements

After Monday's gloomy proceedings in the House of Commons, the House of Lords has a chance to redress the balance with a Bill that speaks out for parliamentary sovereignty. The Treaties (Parliamentary Approval) Bill, to be introduced by Lord Lester of Herrie Hill, has its second reading today. Arcane and little-noticed it may be. but this Bill has the power to shrink the democratic deficit and bring some muchneeded parliamentary scruting to the executive's conduct of foreign policy.

Alone among European countries, Britain's Parliament has no right to approve the treaties which are entered into by the Government under the Crown Prerogative. France, Germany, Belgium, Italy, Sweden, Denmark, The Netherlands and Portugal all expect their parliaments to consent to important treaties before they are ratified as does America. Ireland comes closest to the British position, but even there, the Dail must at least be consulted.

Yet treaties are no longer remote agreements between governments; increasingly they touch the lives of citizens. The Maastricht treaty is the most recent example. But the ratification in 1976 of the UN International Covenants on Human Rights, for instance, caused heated discussion in Cabinet because they would prevent a Labour Government from ever abolishing private schools. Yet Parliament was not given an opportunity formally to ratify them. Not could it pass judgment upon the European Convention on Human Rights, even though Britain's signature transferred legal powers

from Westminster to Strasbourg.

The current position is typically British. A convention exists, drawn up in 1924 by Ar-

thur Ponsonby, a junior Foreign Office minister in Ramsay MacDonald's administration. His intention was to ensure parliamentary discussion of important treaties, but the convention has become so diluted that treaties are merely placed before Parliament for 21 sitting days before ratification. No explanation of the purpose or consequences of any treaty accompanies it, and while it is open to members to try to gain parliamentary time for a debate, there is no uarantee that they will succeed, or that the Government will pay any heed. Moreover, the convention is not even always observed: in a recent written answer. Lord Chesham said that ministers "do not consider themselves bound by a statement made over 70 years ago by a member of an administration of a different political persuasion".

Lord Lester's Bill is deliberately min-

imalist in impact. It would apply only to treaties subject to ratification, so excluding most bilateral agreements. The Government would be obliged to lay before Parliament each treaty along with an explanatory note about the treaty's purpose, the reason for ratification and the likely costs and benefits to the UK. If the treaty were likely to affect existing laws or private rights, or cost the country money, or cede any territory, Parliament would have to approve it actively. Otherwise, the approval would be "facit" under the current Ponsonby procedures.

The only objections that the Foreign Office could produce to this Bill are couched in perfect Mandarin: that nothing needed to change, and that it would take up too much parliamentary time. Their Lordships should produce the appropriate response to such blather, and pass the Bill forthwith.

BIG BROTHER FIDEL

Europe should understand why Cuba is still a pariah regime

Much remains murky in the bizarre shooting down of the two planes owned by the Miami Cuban exile organisation Brothers to the Rescue. The exiles own mission was undoubtedly provocative dropping leaflets on Cuban beaches denouncing President Castro was hardly part of a humanitarian search for Cuban boat people. But the tired old tyrant's response was far more provocative. He appears to have staged the incident to cause maximum. political confusion in the United States. In the short term he has succeeded. But the shots that brought down the four pilots have also shot down any pretence that he has changed or that Cuba has liberalised.

There are two contradictory theories about Señor Castro's action. One is that with the easing of sanctions and a reviving economy, Cuba's hardliners, who are against further concessions to private enterprise, felt strong enough to ignore American. opinion. The second, more probable, explanation is that Cubans still live wretchedly and he has tried the dictator's trick of finding a foreign scapegoat. By provoking renewed sanctions, he can portray Cubans as victims and call for further sacrifices.

Either way, Cuba's bluff has been called President Clinton, mindful of the potential for electoral damage in Florida should he appear soft on Cuba; has moved quickly to denounce Señor Castro at the United Nations. His ban on charter flights to Cuba

will have little real effect on the communist Government; but it will cut Havana off from direct contact with the exiles who were sending back vital dollar remittances via passengers returning to Cuba each week. These measures will not satisfy the Miami exiles, whose hatred of the Castro regime is as fierce as ever and who are now calling over the airwaves for his bloody overthrow. But Mr Clinton has shown the rest of America

that he is not soft on Cuban communism. More importantly, the incident may open the eyes of Europeans to the nature of the Castro regime. Europe has never joined the American trade embargo, or fully understood America's emotional antipathy to Senor Castro. But even while continuing to trade with Cuba, Europeans have trod carefully in America's backyard. Recently, however, under the impression that President Castro is in trouble and Cuba on the brink of change, the Europeans have poured in investment, responded to Havana's overtures and even voted, in the European Parliament last month, to start talks on a cooperation agreement. All this was conditional on steps to political pluralism. They were brutally disillusioned last Saturday when Senor Castro cancelled a promised conference on the Cuban opposition and arrested the participants, Europe was shocked; but after this week's murders in the Caribbean, it should understand why Washington still sees Cuba as a pariah.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

i Pennington Street, London E. 9XN Telephone 0171-782 5000

Parliament and political secrecy

From the Director of the Campaign for Freedom of Information

Sir, As the Scott vote shows, when Parliament decides - even on an is-sue as fundamental as whether it has itself been deceived - political considerations dominate all others. The merits of the issue are overwhelmed by the need to prevent ministerial resignations, deprive the opposition of advantage or avoid an early election. This may do for other matters: it can-not be an acceptable basis for deciding when the public should be told the

The case for a freedom of information Act (letters, February 17, 21) is not that it will finally abolish secrecy even the best law could not do that, But it will take the last word on disclosure away from ministers, and away from a parliamentary majority that, regardless of the party involved, may always be tempted to put up with secrecy rather than cause serious embarrassment to its own side.
As William Waldegrave wrote of

the House of Commons in his 1978 book The Binding of Leviathan, the majority, once obtained, can be whip-ped into line on virtually any measure (ex-cepting occasionally great issues of princi-ple, or issues which affect MPs personally, like their pay) by its Prime Ministerial ring-master who holds the whip of a dissolution over it, and dangles fat bunches of patron-

Yours sincerely, MAURICE FRANKEL Director. The Campaign for Freedom of Information, 88 Old Street, ECI. February 27.

Prisons Ombudsman

From the Chairman of the Association of Members of **Boards of Visitors**

Sir, We view with great concern the reported attempt by the Prison Service to limit the powers of investigation of the Prisons Ombudsman freport, February 26, early editions).

This country has a good record of openness in the administration of its prisons, which has been in existence. in one form or another for several centuries. The mere existence of boards of visitors as independent individuals, with the power to enter any part of a prison at any time, day or night, and the authority to report what is seen, is part of the openness that is essential in the fair numning of closed establish-

The ombudsman was set up to investigate complaints by prisoners. His office has an excellent; although short. record of investigating complex com-plaints, and responding to them with discretion, particularly those beyond the resources of unpaid volunteer members of boards of visitors.

. The reported proposal to limit the powers of Vice-Admiral Sir Peter Woodhead-appear to be because the Minister and the Civil Service do not like their mistakes to be highlighted. It is likely that the excuse will be made that some of the decisions made by the Home Office are too confidential to let the Ombudsman have access to the details. However, when the Home Secretary cannot trust an admiral with the comparatively trivial secrets of criminals, we know that he is going

Yours sincerely, CLIFFORD MICKLEBURGH, Chairman, AMBoV. Tommy Ali Alone, Keycol Hill, Newington, Sittingbourne, Kent. February 26.

From the Chairman of the British and Irish Ombudsman Association

Sir, We are concerned to read reports that the Prisons Ombudsman, Sir Peter Woodhead, may have to resign as a result of what he regards as a cur-tailment of his terms of reference by the Home Office.

Sir Peter has not yet applied for membership of our association, apparently because the terms of his appointment do not fully meet our re-quirement of independence; but it is our hope that these terms will be developed by the Home Office in such a way that in due course he can satisfy our criteria for membership.

We are therefore concerned that the reverse appears to be happening and that the limited independence which the Prisons Ombudsman enjoys may now be subject to further curtailment If the title "ombudsman" is used, the role should carry with it the independence which the name implies.

Yours faithfully. MICHAEL BARNES, Chairman, British and Irish Ombudsman

21 Queen Anne's Gate, SW1.

Mothering Sunday

From Miss V. I. Fisher

Sir: I can confirm Mrs Barnard's recollection (letter, February 22) that violets were the traditional Mothering Sunday flowers.

I grew up between the wars and children, then, always gave their mothers bunches of violets. At the special Sunday service mothers proudly wore these pinned to their coat lapels.

Yours faithfully. VERE FISHER, Treovis Mill, Luckett, Nr Callington, Comwall. February 22.

'Sea Empress': time to pay up, own up and clear up

From Professor C. M. Perrins

Sir, The tragic mismanagement of the Sea Empress disaster in Milford Haven provides clear evidence that the oil industry has failed to learn the lessons of the *Bruer* disaster in Shetland three years ago and has not implemented the recommendations of the Donaldson report that followed it.

The Government should ensure that it now does so. It needs to insist that the oil companies, tanker opera-tors and port authorities have adeduate emergency procedures in place and contain spillages when they oc-cur. These need to be planned and agreed with the local communities whose environment and livelihood will be affected by dangerous practices, inadequate provision and in-competent crisis management.

The Sea Empress tragedy also raises strategic questions. Is it better to disperse the spill (spreading the im-pact on marine communities) than to concentrate it? When is the use of oil dispersants and detergents (with in-evitable toxic effects) really justified?

Would it not be sensible for the Government to establish an effective rapid-reaction team whose job it was to fly immediately to any such incident and take control, unconstrained by the financial benefits of salvage contracts or by local political consider

Should ports - especially those close to areas of outstanding natural beauty and great conservation importance - really be allowed to wel-come single-hulled tankers, registered under flags of convenience, whatever

the short-term financial advantages? Reports suggest that the amount of oil spilled by the Sea Empress was around twice that spilled by the Eccon Valdez in Alaska in 1989. We do not yet know the scale of the disaster to animal communities above and below water and to human communities in

Dyfed and beyond. It is likely to be im-

While the cleaning up of the beaches is one important priority, the bulk of the damage will occur under water. This is not as visible as the immediate impact on seabirds and mainmals, but may have greater and more enduring effects on plants, animals and people. Only a fully independent in-quiry which considers the management of tanker operations and establishes an effective strategy for coping with emergencies would be an approoriate response.

Yours etc. CHRISTOPHER PERRINS (Department of Zoology, University of Oxford), T. R. BIRKHEAD (Department of Zoology, University of Sheffield), T. CLUTTON-BROCK (Department of Zoology, University of Cambridge), cio Edward Grey Institute, South Parks Road, Oxford. February 26.

From Sir William Lithgow, FRINA Sir, Nature is rather better than the oil industry at restoring order after a spill. In May 1993 I found nothing but the hulk of the Braer to indicate the awfulness of a shipwreck in Shetland which had earlier that year polluted

the cliffs and ruined fisheries and fish farms; but it is naive to suppose that the only victims of a spill are those physically contaminated.

You report (Business, February 24) the assertion by the Sea Empress's Norwegian insurers, Skuld, that in the light of their Shetland experience they may hold back compensation. This is grossly offensive to those of us who have suffered huge financial loss. Skuld and the International Oil Pol-

lution Compensation Fund (the latter run like a charity on behalf of the vil inquistry), ignored expert advice wasting about 56 million on feeding salmon that had to be destroyed a year after the Braer disaster. Currently HMG. Shetland council and victims are having to sue these people whilst Skuld belatedly attempts to limit its

The Government has weakly advised it will sist (suspend) its action, leaving Shetland and my company and others to tackle groundbreaking legal issues. The situation, though better than after earlier disasters, is a shambles, with bureaucracies floundering years behind developments.

The Welsh will find to their cost that inquiries will not address the vital issue of fault, as the Government recognised when they unsuccessfully pres-sed IOPCF to take punitive action in respect of Braer. It is high time the oil industry paid and paid promptly for the true cost of its pollution.

Yours faithfully. WILLIAM LITHGOW (Director), Landcatch Ltd. Ormsary, PO Box 7, Lochgilphead, Argyll. February 27.

Anglo-Irish history

From Mr Peter Smith

Sir, For a better understanding of today's Northern Ireland, Mr Andrew Simpson (letter, February 22) invites us to consider a parallel in which a Britain occupied for centuries by Irish imperialists is finally returned to home rule except for Lancashire, which (the majority of its population being "Irish") remains part of a Great er Ireland.

The British response is continued resistance ("bombs and all") until such time as Lancashire is handed back. Mr Simpson approves of this response; by inference, the Irish are under "a moral obligation" to return Lancashire to the British.

Never mind (to pursue his scenario) that the majority of Lancastrians and their forebears have been citizens of Ireland for several centuries past; never mind that this majority clearly wants to retain that citizenship; never mind that the elected leaders of Britain seek the return of Lancashire only if most Lancastrians so desire

Above all, never mind that "our British response ... (bombs and ail)" is the response of a tiny group with some very mixed motives indeed and repudiated by the vast majority of the people of Britain, pro-British Lancastrians included.

Mr Simpson, presumably a demo-crat, should ask himself how his simplistic arguments contribute to the task of finding a democratic solution in Northern Ireland. Yours sincerely

PETER SMITH, 30 Oakcroft Road, SEI3. February 22.

From Mr Ken Stevens

Sir, Mr Andrew Simpson ingenuously tries to apply present-day conven-tions to historical events by implying that British occupancy of Ireland from the 12th century was somehow illegal. By his reasoning, large tracts of the globe (including, for example, the United States) are being occupied ille-gally by imperialists of European an-

Hopefully, however, Mr Simpson will accept that the rights of tenure of their current generations have been established by the passing of several centuries -- as is the case with the descendants of the original British immigrants in Ireland.

in former times, forcible acquisition of territory was regarded as legitimate. This is no longer so in a civilised society, whether by direct military means or indirectly by terrorist action.

and any constitutional evolution must be effected by peaceful democratic

Yours sincerely, KEN STEVENS, Red House Drive. Sonning Common, Reading, South Oxfordshire. February 22.

From Mr Ben Stroude

Sir. Mr Simpson's analogy of the Lancashire Irish is perfectly fair but his conclusion ('we British are under a moral obligation to return Northern ireland to the Irish nation") simply ignores the present reality. No doubt the vast majority of the British, including politicians of all colours, would be only too glad to do exactly that and wash our hands of the whole nasty

Unfortunately by doing so we would risk a bloody civil war and we iust do not want that on our con science. That is the dilemma, and bombing and murdering - with or without Mr Simpson's "gusto" - do not help solve it.

Yours sincerely, BEN STROUDE. 14 China Farm Lane. West Kirby, Wirral, Merseyside. February 22.

'Poaching' doctors

From Professor Michael Rosen

Sir, The NHS is requested, as a moral obligation, not to recruit doctors from South Africa (February 15, 22, 24). While in Zimbabwe, an even poorer country, complaints were made to me that South African salaries were enticing dinicians there.

This is clearly not a simple moral problem. Embargoing emigration, as Sir Raymond Hoffenberg concedes in his letter, is not acceptable. Indeed, some interchange is highly desirable. Countries should balance their investment in medical education with providing resources sufficient to retain ductors. It is reasonable, also, to consider payback of educational costs or fulfilment of a term contract after graduation.

There is still likely to be shortage. Fortunately, there are some publicspirited doctors, like Sir Raymond, who are willing to serve in developing countries. More could be done to make this attractive. For our speciality, the World Federation of Societies of Anesthesiologists can offer its

Yours sincerely, MICHAEL ROSEN Executive Officer, WFSA. (President, Royal College of Anaesthetists, 1988-91), 45 Hollybush Road, Cardiff. February 26.

College loyalties

From Dr J. M. Poster

Sir. The war memorial in New College to its German members killed in the First World War (letter, February 23) was erected despite much opposition due to the fiercely anti-German sentiment at that time.

Thus, it is also a memorial to the courage and determination of the then warden of the college (1903-24), the humane and much misunderstood Dr W. A. Spooner.

Yours faithfully. JOHN POTTER (Acting Dean of Degrees). Wadham College, Oxford. February 23.

Diana in Pakistan

for Pakistan

cess Diana's visit to Pakistan at the invitation of Imran Khan has embarras. sed the Pakistan Government ("Imran rebuffs media attack on visit by Princess", February 20) and that the Princess's visit has provided "a publicity coup" for the "aspiring politician". Imran Khan has yet to open his pol-

Letters that are intended. for publication should carry a daytime telephone number. They may be sent to a fax number -0171-782 5046

In the steps of Drake

From Mrs Dorothy Elliott

Sir, Whilst I appreciate that only a few stairs and steps could be mentioned in Rodney Bewes's letter (February 23) on the Thames stairs, I feel that Drake's Steps here at Deptford Strand should be included.

It was here on April 4, 158), that Elizabeth I boarded the Golden Hind and knighted Sir Francis Drake. As legend has it, Sir Walter Raleigh laid his cloak over a puddle at the top of the same stairs.

Yours faithfully, DOROTHY ELLIOTT, 43 Foreshore, Deptford Strand, SE8. February 23.

gance to suggest that people living in

our country give any weight at all to a foreign princess's political preferen-

From the High Commissioner

You also report Imran's oft-repeat-Sir, It is ludicrous to state that Prined assertion that he is banned from TV to raise money for his hospital. Pakistan Television is a commercial organisation which charges fees for ads; imran, answering charges of nepotism in running his hospital, has himself said that it runs on purely "commercial" considerations. Let him then pay for his ads. itical innings, and it is surely arro-

Yours sincerely, WAJID SHAMSUL HASAN. High Commissioner, Office of the High Commission for Pakistan 35 Lowndes Square, SWI. February 23.

Many thanks

From Ms Adrienne Capron-Tee

Sir. Perhaps those letter writers (February 24 etc) criticising computer thank-you letters should show a bit of old-fashioned courtesy themselves by receiving them with pleasure instead of criticism. They might receive more! Manners are taught as much by ex-

ample as by the telling. Yours faithfully, ADRIENNE CAPRON-TEE o Balmoral Close, Evesham. Hereford and Worcestershire.

Club resignations

From Mr D. L. Morgan

Sir. May I perhaps close the saga of the United Oxford and Cambridge University Club and women with a

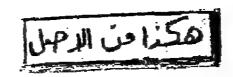
You today report, as you have done on previous occasions, that 69 heads of Oxford and Cambridge colleges left the club last year. This is not accurate: they did indeed write a letter protesting at the exclusion of women from membership, and stating that those of them who were members would resign, but only about half of them were members. The other half who were not members were not even in a position to resign.

Yours faithfully, D. L. MORGAN (Committee member), United Oxford & Cambridge University Club. 71 Pall Mall, SW1. February 23. •

By invitation only? From Mr Peter Hawkins

Sir. You recently announced the occasion of the annual ladies' dinner of the Parish Clerks' Company (Court and Social, February 21). As in Eye, and in very many other parishes, we have a female town (parish) clerk, it made me wonder whether "ladies' dinner" is quite the right way to describe such an event; or, heaven forbid, is the membership of the Parish Clerks' Company totally male?

Yours faithfully, PETER HAWKINS, 20 Church Street, Eye, Suffolk.





COURT CIRCULAR

BUCKINGHAM PALACE February 27: The Queen held an Investiture at Buckingham Palace

The Rt Hon John Major MP (Prime Minister and First Lord of the Treasury) had an audience of

Her Majesty this evening.
The Lady Susan Hussey has succeeded the Hon Mary Morrison as Lady in Waiting to The

February 27: The Princess Royal. President, Royal Agricultural Society of England, this morning anended a Council Meeting and Annual Lecture at the Institution of Annual Lecture at the Institution of Civil Engineers, I Great George Street, London SWI.

Her Royal Highness, President, Inc. 1988 September 2018

the Rural Housing Trust, this evening attended the Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors' Annual Dinner at the Grosvenor House Hotel. London WI. ST JAMES'S PALACE February 27: The Prince of Wales

Royal engagements

The Queen will attend the Gulf War memorial service in St Paul's Cathe-dral at 10.55. The Prince of Wales and the Princess Royal will also attend. The Prince of Wales, as Chairman of the Royal Collection Trust, will attend a preview of the Leonardo da Vinci Exhibition at The Queen's Gallery at 6.45: and will visit the Swaminarayan Temple, Neasden, NWIO, at 8.05.

The Duke of York, as Colonel-iz-Chief of The Staffordshire Regument (The Prince of Wales's), will attend a service to dedicate a memorial to the British servicemen who died in in the Gulf War. In St Paul's Cathedral at 10.55; and will attend an Anglo-Argentine Society dinner at the Naval and Military Club. Plocadilly, at 7.30. and Military Club. Piccadilly, at 7.30. The Princess Royal, as President of the Patrons. Crime Concern, will launch Hackney Safer Cides project at Malvern Arch, Stamford Hill Estate, at 3.00, at Hackney Community College, Cassland Road, at 3.30, at Sloane House, Frampton Park Estate at 3.55, and at the Town Hall, Mare Street, at 4.20. Later, as Patron of the Butler Trust, she will attend the leap year dinner and ball at the Banquering Hall, Whitehall Place, London SWI, at 8.00. Princess Alexandra will open the

Princess Alexandra will open the Western Community Hospital for the Southampton Community Health Services NHS Trust at Walnut Grove, Millbrook, Southampton, at noon; will open the new veterinary centre of the People's Dispensary for Skek Animals at 40/46 Mount Pleasant Road, Northam, at 2,00; and will visit the Home of Comfort for visit the Home of Comfort for Invalids at 17 Victoria Grove, Southsea, at 3.00. The Duke of Kent, as Vice-Chairman

of the British Overseas Trade Board, will open the international passenger terminal at Ashford, Kent. at 11.30.

Akhawayn University. Ifrane. His Royal Highness later attended a Reception for staff and

students of the University.

The Prince of Wales this afternoon arrived at Royal Air Force Lyneham from Morocco. Mr Stephen Lamport, Lieuten-ant Colonel Patrick Tabor and

Miss Sandra Henney were in

ST JAMES'S PALACE February 27: The Duke of Kent, President, attended dinner, the Cavalry and Guards Club, Picca-

THATCHED HOUSE LODGE February 27: Princess Alexandra Vice-Patron, this evening attenden a Reception to mark the 140th Anniversary of the Young Wom-en's Christian Association of Great Britain at St James's Palace. London SWI.

Luncheons

Insurance Institute of London The Lord Mayor, accompanied by Mr Sheriff Kenneth Avers, was the given by the Insurance Institute of London yesterday at the Mansion House, Mr Hamish Ritchie, president of the institute, presided and Mr Howard Davies, Deputy Gov-ernor of the Bank of England, was the principal speaker.

Newspaper Society Mr Geoffrey Copeman, President of the Newspaper Society, was the host at a luncheon held yesterday at Bloomsbury House, London WCI, in honour of Mr Ian Lang, President of the Board of Trade. newspapers were present.

University news Oxford

New College The college has elected to Fellow ships as follows: From October 1, 1996:

Denis Cecil Feeney. DPhil (BA. MA Auckland), Official Fellow in Classical Languages and Literature. Anthony John Butler, MA. (Dip Criminology, Cambi, Professorial Fellow, Director of Careers

Mark Donald Leney (BSc Edin), Christopher Cox Junior Fellow.

The University exists to promote excellence in education and research.

Birthdays today

Mr Peter Alliss, golfer and broad-caster, 65: Mr Philip Balfhache, Bailiff of Jersey, 50: Sir Peter Baxendell, former chairman, Hawker Siddeley Group, 71; Miss Stephanie Beacham, actress, 47; Mr Alfred Burke, actor, 78; Mr John Carson, actor, 69; Field Marshal Sir James Cassels, 89; Dr Robin Cook, MP. 50: Viscount Dilhorne, 64: Mr Oliver Everett. Ilbrarian. Windsor Castle, 53; Ma-jor-General E.F. Foxton, 82: Mr H.M. Grindrod, QC, 60: Sir Anthony Havelock-Allan, Illm producer, 92: Admiral Sir Peter Her-Hubbs, director, Duke of Edinburgh's Award Scheme, 59: Profes-

sor J.M. Irvine, Principal and Vice-

will be raised high. Pealm 75: 10 (REB)

Chancellor, Aberdeen University, 57; Professor Thomas Kempner, professor of business studies, 66 Mr Barry McGuigan, boxer, 35 Mr George Malcolm, musician, 79: Mr Martin Marriott, former Headmaster, Canford School Dorset, 64; Mr Brian Moore, sports commentator, 64: the Earl of Onslow, 58; Mr Robin Phillips, actor and director, 54: Dr Peter Southern, Headmaster, Bancroft's School, Woodford Green. 49: Mr Peter Stothard, Editor, The Times, president, John Swire and Sons 69: Sir Brian Urquhart, former Assistant Secretary-General UN 77: Vice-Admiral Sir James Weatherall, Marshal of the Dip-lomatic Corps, 60: Mr John Wil-

son, racehorse trainer, 40.

MERCURY reaches superior conjunction on the 28th and then begins the most favourable evening apparition of the year, though it will not become observable until Venus brightens to 4.4 mag-

nitude, not setting until 23h late in the month when it will be in Taurus and just to the south of Pleiades. Crescent Moon to the south on the 23rd.

Mars is in conjunction with the Sun on the 4th and will then become a morning star, but will not be observable until July. Jupiter is a -2.2 magnitude object in Sagittarius rising by 02h 30m by the 31st. Crescent Moon to the

north on the 14th.

north on the 14th.

Saturn is a morning star but remains in twilight until June.

Uranus is in Capricornus rising by 03h late in the month. At 5.7 magnitude it is just visible to the naked eye in a dark sky, but requires binoculars or a telescope

and a star chart showing fainter stars for a firm identification. Neptune is to the west of Uranus and at 8 magnitude needs optical and at 8 magnitude recent optical aid. Moon to the north on the 15th. The Moon: full Moon. 5d 09h: last quarter. 12d 17h: new Moon, 19d 11h; first quarter, 27d 02h. The Earth: the Spring equinor, when the Sun crosses the equator

into the north hemisphere, is at Sunset on the 1st is at 17h 35m

and on the 31st at 18h 35m while sunrise is at 0bh 50m and 05h 35m on the same dates. Astronomical twilight ends at 19h 30m and 20h 30m early and late in the month and begins again at 0th 55m and

Cornet Hale-Bopp, discussed in the November Night Sky notes, is still expected to become a naked eye object later this year and possibly a conspicuous comet with hate-Bopp seems to be a large and active cornet which will be bright despite not approaching closely the Earth or Sun (135 million km).

Mr Richard Page, MP, Par-

liamentary Under-Secretary of State for Small Business, Industry

and Energy, was the host at a reception given by Her Majesty's Government yesterday at Lan-caster House to mark the eleventh

session of the Assembly of the International Mobile Satellite Org-

Lord Graham of Edmonton was

the host at a reception held

the British Safety Council's Di-ploma in Safety Management and Faculty of Risk Management

Mrs Lesley Lewis, Chairman of the

Thomas More Picture Trust, Mrs

Nancy Catchoole, Chairman of the

Governors of the British Federa-

tion of Women Graduates Char-

table Foundation, and Mr David

Le Lay, Chairman of the Chelsea

Society, were the hosts at a reception held yesterday at Chel-sea Old Town Hall for the unveil-

ing of the restored group portrait.

after Holbein, of Sir Thomas More

Dr Derek Richter

A meeting to commemorate the life

and work of the late Dr Derek. Richter, PhD, FRCPsych (Hon).

will be held at the Royal Society of Medicine. I Wimpole Street, WI.

on Saturday, March 23, at 2pm.

Former colleagues and friends are cordially invited to attend.

DEATHS

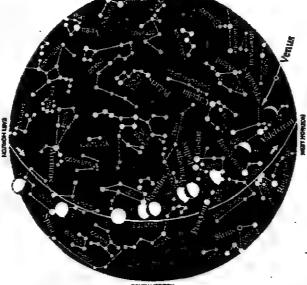
and family.

Thomas More Picture Trust

British Safety Council

Receptions

HM Government



The night sky in March

The diagram shows the brighter stars that will be above the hortzon in the latitude of London at 23h (11 pm) at the beginning, 22h (10 pm) in the middle, and 21h (9 pm) at the end of the month, local mean dine. At places away from the Greenwich meridian the Greenwich thres at which the diagram applies are later than the above by one hour for each 15 deg west of Greenwich and earlier by a like amount if the place be east. The map should be turned so that the horizon the observer is facing (shown by the words around the circle) is at the bottom, the zenith being at the centre. Greenwich Mean Time, known to astronomers as Universal Time and expressed in 24-hour notation, is used in the accompanying notes unless otherwise stated.

ered recently in Japan, C/1996 B2 (Hyakutake), which is expected to reach naked eye brightness later this month. Unlike Hake-Bopp, comet Hyakutake will make a relatively close approach to the Earth and later pass quite close to the Sun (34 million km). If this comet becomes bright, it will be for these reasons and not because it is an unusually active object like In February comet Hyakutake is

southern sky and moving very slowly north through the constellation Libra. This slow movement against the sky makes the orbit difficult to determine accurately, which makes the track across the to the Earth rather uncertain.

Royal Institution of Chartered

Surveyors
The Princess Royal was the prin-

cipal speaker at the annual dinner of the Royal Institution of Char-

tered Surveyors held last night at

Grosvenor House, Mr Simon Pott.

To mark the visit to London of the Lord Mayor of Bratislava, the

hosts at a dinner given in his honour last night at Guildhall. The

Lord Mayor and Lady Mayoress, accompanied by the Sheriffs and their ladies received the guests

who included the Slovak Republic and Mrs Villicovski, Mr Jan Figel, Baroness Smith of Gilmore hill. Sir Peter Petrie, Sir Sigmund and Lady Stemberg, Sir Norman Wooding, Members of Parliament, Aldermen, Common Councillmen

Sir Sydney Chapman, MP, was the host to the United & Oscil Club at a

dinner held last night at the House

of Commons. Sir Marcus Fox. MP.

chairman, presided. Lord Henley

was the principal guest and speaker. Mr Jeffery Boswall also

The annual dinner of the DIVERT

Trust, which supports young people at risk of crime, was held last night at Merchant Taylors' Hall. The Master of the Rolls, the

Commissioner of the City of London Police, and the chairman

of the trust were the speakers.

Among those present were: lady Elton, Baroness O'Cathain, the Master of the Merchant Taylors' Company and Mrs Whirehead, Mrs

president, was in the chair.

Corporation of London

who included:

United & Cecil Club

spoke

DIVERT Treat

Accuracy will improve with further observations. But the general path through the constellations is unlikely to be far out though because of its fast apparent motion across the sky the comet could be several degrees ahead or behind its currently estimated positions on dates towards the end of the month. The magnitudes are a guide but uncerta The comet could become visible

to the naked eye (4th-5th mag-nitude) about mid-month in Libra and cross the equator into eastern Virgo on the 20th when it could be

By the night of the 22nd/23rd it passes 10 degrees east of Arcturus in Bootes. By the 23rd/24th it is to the north of Arcturus and west of Corona Borealis, being 10 degrees

United Orderd and Combridge

University Club
Sir Trefor Morris, HM Chief
inspector of Constabulary, was the
principal speaker at a dianer of the
United Oxford and Cambridge
University Club held last night at
71 Pall Mall. Captain Patrick
Tyrrell presided.

ne Urgar

Security and Co-operation Europe, was the guest of honour and speaker at a dinner discussion of the European-Atlantic Group held

last night at the St Ermin's Hotel,

Viscount Montgomery of Alamein

Earlier Mr Peter Temple-Mor-ris, MP, a vice-chairman, spon-

fored a meeting at the House of

The life barony conferred upon Sir David Howe Gillmore has been gazetted by the name, style and title of Baron Gillmore of Thamesfield, of Putney inthe London Borough of Wandsworth.

president, was in the chair.

Lord Gillmore

of Thamesfield

mopean Allantic Group Senator Frank Swaelen, Belgian

Tyrrell presided.

north-east of the last star in the tail of the Ursa Major (and the Plough) by the 24th/25th. By this time the comet could be 1st magnitude, but perhaps not as easy to see as this molies (see below).

It then passes (25th/26th) near the brightest star in Ursa Minor and within a few degrees of Polaris (26th/27th) and on into Camelo-pardalis (27th/28th), now moving less quickly to be in northern Perseus by April I at perhaps 2nd

magnitude.
The March chart shows these constellations and for most of this ime the comet will be above the horizon all night. However, it will not be easy to see if there is much moonlight. The moon is at first quarter on the 27th but in March sets late (almost 02h un the 2nth/27th). So the best time to see the comes will be in the early hours for June (any year) shows how the stars are placed relative to the horizon on April 1 at 03h and would be a good guide to where to find the constellations about that hour towards the end of March. Predictions about comets are fraught with uncertainty and astronomers always have the di-lemma of whether to alent readers

temma of whether in auert readers, and risk another damp squib or play safe by saying nothing and risk depriving them of a rare sight in the night sky.

The last naked eye comet to pass close to the Earth was IRAS-Arski-Alcnck in 1983 May. This passed within 0.03 AU (4.5 million km) compared with 0.10 AU (4.5 million compared wit

compared with 0.10 AU (15 million km) for Hyakutake. It reached 1.5 magnitude and 2.5 degrees across or five times the Moon's diameter. It looked like a small white cloud and its movement against the stars was so last as to be noticeable with the naked eye in only a few minutes. Hyakutake too will reach almost a degree an hour and could also appear large and diffuse. It may be necessary to sweep over an area near the positions described which are for about midnight Binoculars should help here to locate and follow the comet should it be fainter than expected or of low surface brightness and to show any detail in the head or tail.

Dinners Anniversaries William Taylor, the Earl and Countess of Limerick, the Viscounts and Viscountess of Ordurd, Lord and Lady Jenkin of Roding, Lord Wigoder, Oc., and Lady Wigoder. Str John and Lady Hobbouse, Lady Panuknik, Mr and Mrs Terence Mailinson, Mr Paul Boseneg, MP, and Mrs Bouteng, Mrs Angela Sarkis, Mr John Bridgerman, Mr Alan Mayes-Smith, Or David Randolph, Mr and Mrs Roger Liddlard. Mr Andrew Flennes Trotman, Canon and Mrs John Halliburton, Mr and Mrs John Halliburton, Mr and Mrs Michael Hastings, Ms Floelia Benjamin and Mr Mark Wyan.

BIRTHS: Michel de Montaigne essayist. Perigord, France, 1533: Thomas Newcomen, inventor of the atmospheric steam engine. Dertmouth, baptised this day 1663; René Reamur, inventor and naturalist. La Rochelle, France, and cartomist, London, 1820; Blondin (Jean-François Gravelet). tightrope walker. St-Omer, France, 1824; Douglas Hogg, 1st Viscount Hailsham, Lord Chancellor 1928-29 and 1935-38, London 1872; Ben Hecht, novelist and film writer, New York, 1894; Sir Peter Medawar, medical scientist, Nobel laureate 1960, Rio de Janeiro, 1915; Brian Jones, rock guitarist, Cheltenham, Gloucestershire,

DEATHS: Alphonse de Lamar-tine, poet and statesman, Passy, elist, Rye, 1916; Arnold Dolmetsch, musician, Haslemere, Surrey, 1940: Henry Luce, publisher of Time, Fortune, Life, Phoenix, Ari-John Wesley signed the "deed of declaration" of the Wesleyan faith.

Ladysmith was relieved during the Boer War, 1900. Albert Berry made the first parachute jump from a plane over Missouri, 1912.

Forty-two people died when a London Underground train crashed at Moorgate station, 1975.

Today's events The Oueen's Life Guard mounts at

Forthcoming marriages

Mr M.I. Bust and Miss C.J. Bailey
The engagement is announced
between Michael, second son of Mr Bryan Basset, CBE, and Lady Carey Basset, of Quarles, Wells. Norfolk, and Caroline, eldest daughter of the late Mr J.P. Balley and of Mrs Balley, of Quakers, Lower Hazel, Bristol. Mr A.J.Mc. Crawford

and Miss S.H.M. Bidwell The engagement is announced between Andrew, elder son of Mr and Mrs Ian Crawford, of Blairgowrie, Perthshire, and Sophie, only daughter of Sir Hugh and Lady Bidwell, of The Par-sonage, Goodnestone, near Mr J.A. Dakin and Mim V.M. Hunt

The engagement is announced between Jon, younger son of Mr and Mrs Gerald Dakin, of Ipplepen, Devon, and Victoria, daughter of Mr and Mrs John Hunt, of Hatch Beauchamp. Mr J.B. Nos

and Mins LM. Baker The engagement is announced between Jonathan Beale, son of Mr Robert Neame, of Selling, Kent, and Mrs John Linington, of Boscastle, Cornwall, and Lucilla Margaret, daughter of Mr Michael Baker, of Romsey, Hampshire, and Mrs Richard Barker, formerly Provence France

Commander M.C. Sillars, RN, The engagement is announced between Malcolm Crawford, only son of the late Mr and Mrs Angus Siliars, of Stuckenduff, Shandon Dunbartonshire, and Amanda Mary, elder daughter of Mr and Mrs John Millard Barnes, of The Craig, Balmaciellan, Kirkcud-brightshire.

and Mrs C.A. Black The engagement is announced between Stephen, only son of Mr and Mrs M.J. Foden, of Kibbear House, Trull, Taunton, Somerset, and Catherine, youngest daughter of Mr and Mrs J. Wild. of Bull Farm, Kenley, Shrewsbury.

Mr D.Q. Salmons and Miss J.M. Simpson The engagement is announced between Daniel, son of Professor S. and Dr P.H. Salmons, of Frodsham, Cheshire, and Joanna, daughter of Canon and Mrs J.L. Simpson, of Bristol. Mr R.J. Smith

and Miss W.J.E. Clark The engagement is announced between Roger, eldest son of Mr and Mrs Roy Smith, of Sevenoaks, Kent, and Wendy, only daughter of Mr G.B. Clark and the late Mrs Diane Clark, of Famborough,

Mr P.H.G. Turner and Miss J.M. Fetherstonhaugh The engagement is announced between Philip, son of Mr and Mrs E. Turner, of Gislingham, Suffolk, and Juliet, youngest daughter of Mr C.B.R. Fetherstonhaugh, of Andorra, and Mrs M.S. Cotton, of

Bisley, Gloucestershire. Mr N.F. White and Miss N.C. Perret The engagement is announced between Nicholas, elder son of Mr and Mrs Richard White, of Hove.

and Naomi, youngest daughter of Mr and Mrs John Perret, of Mr M.D. Wood and Miss S.C. Inglis

and Miss S.C. Ingus
The engagement is announced
between Mark, son of Mr and Mrs Robin Wood, of Honeydew, Johannesburg, and Sandra, daughter of Mr Ian Inglis, of Johannesburg, and Mrs Pamela Rox, of Wakes Coine, Colchester.

Appointments in the Forces

Royal Navy & Royal Marines CAPTAIN: B Leighton - MOD London as DPR (NAVY) in rank of Cdre.30.7.96.

COMMANDER: W F G Griffin Drake 13.96; K Harvey - Dryad 11.6.96; D J Sayer - MOD Bath 10.5.96; N P Stanley - Gration in Cmd 4.6.96; J. D. Stratton - Bristo

Raffaelli - MOD London 19.4.96. MAJOR: E A Gibson HQAFNORTHWEST 28.6.96. CHAPLAIN: 1 F Naylor - CFM Portsmouth 21.3.96; R S Wort -CFM Portsmouth 7.5.96.

COMMANDER: RD Bong - 18.5.96. MAJOR: M A Stevens - 9.5.96.

The Army
MAJOR GENERAL Major General C G Callow to be Director
General Defence Medical Training 5.2.96 (belated entry). COLONEL: W A Ashley - To HQ and 26.2.96: G N Donaldson - To HQ Catterick Garrison, 26.2.96. LIEUTENANT COLONEL K G Lawson AGC(ETS) - To HQ 2 Div. 26.2.96; A T D Lerwill LI - To MoD. 13.96; A V Pedder RA - To be CO. RA Range Hebrides, 26.2-96; A M. F Potter R Irish - To BMATT Zim-babwe, 26.2-96; P R Sharpe REME - To HQ ARRAC, 26.2.96; J E Watson RA - To be CO Aberdeen Watson KA - UOTC, 26.2.96.

Latest wills

SURGEON COMMANDER: P I

CAPTAIN: A G Jones - 14.5.96.

BRIGADIER: JJ Gaskell late Kings, 1.3.96; R N Lennox late RAOC, 1.3.96; D G Sharp late AAC, 1.3.96; M Smythe late RA, L3.96.

OOLONEL: P G Bibby late RRF. L1.96: D M Gill late RE. 1.3.96: N R C Hoyal late RAEC, 13.96; W J R Hughes late RE, 13.96; R J R Symonds late RA, 13.96.

Retirements

Sir Roger de Grey, of Meopham.

Kent, the artist, president of the Royal Academy 1984-93, left estate valued at £629,703 net. His Honour Judge Patrick Wil-liam Medd, of Clifton Hampden. Oxfordshire, a Circuit Court judge 1981-92, left estate valued at

The 10th Viscount Ashbrook, of

Arley, Northwich, Cheshire, chartered accountant, a member of the Council of the Duchy of Lancaster 1957-77, and Vice-Lieutenant of ire 1961-67, left estate valued at £191,094 net. Other esiztes include (net before

Miss Catherine Hilda Strauss, of London SW3..... £1,217,487 Lady Perla Elizabeth Mary Talbot. Margaret Ogilvic Withof-Keus, of Framfield, East Sussex.: 1869,817

Service dinner

TRADE: 0171 481 1982

FAX: 0171 481 9313

TICKETS FOR SALE

TICKETS

FOR SALE

When respecting advertisements readers are advised to establish the face value and full debate of tickets before extenting into any commitment. Most aports

Royal Air Force Air Chief Marshal Sir Michael Graydon, Chief of the Air Staff, and Lady Graydon were the hosts at a dinner given by the Royal Air Force last night at the RAF Museum, Hendon, in honour members of the United Kingdom members of the United Kingdom Aerospace Industries and their ladies, Among those present were Lord and Lady Weinstock. Sir Emest and Lady Hurrison, Sir Ralph and Lady Robins, Sir Donald and Lady Spiets, Sir Michael and Lady Cobham. Air Chief Marshal Sir Partick and Lady Hine, Cappain and Mrs G Frawbes, Mr and Mrs N Barter, Mr and Mrs N Evans, Mr and Mrs R H Evans, Mr and Mrs R Gershon and Mr and Mrs K Smith.

BMD'S: 0171 782 7272 PRIVATE: 0171 481 4000

BIRTHS

ADAMS - On Forwary 25th.
In Section (the Notice) and
Clive, a daughter, Liste
Charlotte, a sister for Califix.

Charlotte, a sister for Caldin.
BELL - On February 18th at
The Portland Hospital. to
Sandy (nife Tyler) and
Martin, a daughter, Colette
Marin, a daughter, Colette
Marin, a daughter, Colette
Marin, a charler, Colette
Marin, a charler, on the
Marin, a charler, on the
Marin a son, Thomas William, a
haveler for Edward.
BYWANDS - See NeillEdwards.
FOX - On January 25rd 1995
at The Portland Hospital, to
Marilla (Die Lawure) and
Alam, a son, Ganon, a brother
for Liora and terms.
FRY - On 11th February, to FRY - On 11th February, to Leura (née Shewen) and

Charlotte.

MAYNES - On Fournery 20th
of Setts bened Moughtal, NewYork, to Prier and Fisha this
Cooper), a daughter, Ariel
Phoebe Alice.

HOCO - On Frider Petruary 23rd, it Sens (not broken). Bruce) and Wally, a daughter. Talls Joelle. Advictor on February 27th in Religious Petruary 27th in Religious Petruary 27th. to Belinda "Bin" (nie Hancock) and Mark, a daughter. Zoe Melissa Markh. a sher for Nami and Sarana. to Avril (bite Fox) and Hugh.

LLER - On 18th Princery to Vancess (née Lloyd-Jones) and Julian, a son, James William Worsley.

February 1996, in Khrithi into Treast and Julian a son, Hector Cary, a brother for Cecilia.

HE SON, Comments of the Comments of the Cecilia.

for Cecilia.

NELSON - On 19th February.

to Louisa and Miles. a son,
Funnan Charter Tullis, a

property of the Company of the Company.

PCCCTHESEN - On Fabruary

22nd 1996, to Nicola (née
Sheerita) and Tom. a

daughter. After Mary Ella.

ROBERTSON - On 22nd

Prierury, Ingolay of house

to Sailla (née Rowson) and

Prierur, a daughter. Sprany

Kalta, a state for Desical and EYAR - On February 23rd in Henrietta (mée McBurney) and Christopher. a son. Ediminal Meanure, a basther for Francesca and

EHGAL - On February 18th at The Portland Hospital to el The Pordand Hospan. Leens (nee Khurana) an Paul. a beaming beby bu Seath Paul.

18th, in Annette Kiety and Steeler Smeltwood. a ron. Jacobs Joseph. BPEAN - On 22rd February, to Helen (ptg Permed) and Andrew, a son, Hugo Anthony Afichiem. 1996 at the Union Houses, to Linda and Patrick, a beautiful daughter. Otivia

in Chicago, to Marine and Richard. a daughter. yes der LAMDII - On 1820 February 1996, to Harriet one wynes are Carde. Now home, with thanks to St Thomas and Greet Ornome

VERDAR - On February 21% at Queen Charlotte's maternity Houses, Losses, to Alex and Alex. a son. Thomas, 9th 7er. a brother for Jack.

DEATHS

AKERMAN - On 28th
February, Pemetope aged 78
years, peacefully at Coumbe
Grange Nursing Home.
Sway. Hampshire.
Sway. Hampshire.
Intributed wife of the Into
Cer. Teor Abstract.
Much loved wife of the Into
Cer. Teor Abstract.
Intributed on Service at
Millord-on-Sea Parish
Church on Friday. 8th
March at 12 noon. All
welcome. Donation may be
made to Cabarat. Houses
C/o Diamond and Son
Funeral Directors.
Lymington, 8041 91N. AKERMAN - On 25th

ANTILL - Stmon 65. tragically in an accident on 25th February. Husband of Anthes, better of Vanessa, Juliet, Heien and Louise and Pale to Therma and allegal, for funeral arrangements please contact E. Hurkon & Soz. Funeral Directors. (01777) 703502.

DEATES BARKER-SDMSON - Lt Col
Donald Siewart 29ed 78
suddenly on 28th February
1996 at home, much loved
husband of Junifer,
wonderful father of Briony
and Fenella and grandfather
of 20th Entity, Guy and Max.
Service of Thamingiving at
The Church of St John The
Baptiet, Funchingibled, on
Monday 4th March at
2.30pm, No flowers;
donations, if desired, to
MacMillan Nurses c/o RD
Green, Puneral Directors.
Saffron Walden, Emex.

BULWER LONG - William Hussip, on 25th February 1996, aged 68. contraspounty, at Papworth Hosoital, Cambridge after a short libres. Funeral on Wednesday 6th March at Herden Charch 12 July. Family flowers only. Donations if desired to Heydon Church/Papworth Hospital c/e Duckers Funeral Service, 21 White Hart Street, Aylsham, Norwich, Fortial.

CAMPBELL - On 24th
February 1996. Charles,
beloved husband of
Margare and of Paths,
and they a Cavis, Septia
and Elles, Puneral Service
to be lead of Themes Cabes
United Reformed Church,
Survey at 2 pm on Friday Sin
March, Femily Sowers onlyrises. Are concess to the
Refish Disbeth Association.
10 Queen Anne Street.
London.

CASS - On February 24th monthly Eric December in this 87th year. Husband of Joy. Dear father of Vivien and Vanessa and grandfather of five. Service at Enfeld Crementy am on Webselley on hurch at 2 ms. Persey the Service only.

Straine 'Derotty France's Straine 'Units' 'Laylard') beautility in 24th February after a short them. Balevad with a the late fittle (1911), much bread mother of David, grandwenders of Masthew. Timethy and Joseph and mother-in-law of Masthew. Private currention, followed by a flavour of Thumbayum at the Parish Church in St. Brisyels, (Boppenhyshine, on Wednesday 6th March 2.30pm, No flowers please, but domesions if desired to Cancer Research.

DEATHS

CORFIELD - After a short times on 26th February 1996. Janet Elien Mary Corfield, beloved wife of the late C.W. Roger Corfield, much leved mother of Christober. Nich and Gilly and drystell grant from the Service of 2.20 pm on Friday 8th March at Penneount Crematorium. Frum. Cornwall. Oktraow Chapal, Family flowers only but denations may be made to the Royal Commonwealth Society for the Blind. Enquiries to Fameral

DALNYMPLE - JORG AFTER JAM STYMPLE - Jone Agmer.

13th Earl of State, pencertally
et Lockinch, an February
20th, 1996, Powers et lech
Church on Friday, 1st
March, at 12 noon, Family
Rowse andy, Damiston to
Scota Church Churchile
Fund, RNQ Scota Church
Wellington Barracks, London
Stat.

de CHAZAL - Neity believed motion of David. One and City, died 19th February 1996. Private cremation. 1996. Private cremation. Informat of sibes should be been been graced in Yorkshire 22nd February. Requies Mase and Caldredon of Mody's Street, London, SWA, Editored by introduced by Justice School Hall. Donations. If Wahed, to Cardinal Human Courte Trust. 3-7 Arnewsy Street, Horsedony Road, London SWAP 28G.

1996, addenty at home.
Frank Edward Elgar
F.R.L.C.S., F.A.A.V., aged 79
years, of Wingham, beloved
besteed of the late Mary,
devoted father and
grandfather. Funeral Service
at the Partish Church of St.
Mary. Whogham on beloved
by committed at Barkham
Grematorium. Me flowers
please, dousdions if destred to
Wingham Church and
Lague of Friends of Kent
and Captarbury Republic. Co
J. Dilhot Smith & Son.
Funeral Directors. Beacon
Lane. Woodnesborough.
Sandwich, Man GT15 GPD.

PERSONAL COLUMN

EVETTE - On February 20th, Julian Arthur Evetty NSE, JP, aged 84 years of Tackley, Ocean, Cremetics private, A Memorial Service will be held at Tackley FRIEDS. - Kinny, on Sunday
25th February at home,
dearly loved wife of the late
Dr. Erpet Friedl and dearwat
mother and mother-in-law of
Eva and mother-in-law of
Eva and mother-in-law of
Eva and mother-in-law of
Eva and mother-in-law
Anton, Funeral at Mortiniae
Creminorium on Thursday
29th February 1996 at
10am, in item of flowers,
please make a donation to the
English National Opera in
her memory.

GENERAL - Jaconarda med 29. on Sunday 25th February In a meterlag stricket. Balows dampler, stater and sund. Requiem blam at It Cameria Rema-cefficie Church. Castelass Series, as Friday Sance 54 at 11 sts. Private famous afterwards at Mortiake-Crematorium. Flowers in T.H. Sanders, 58 Barnes 1036 Sync. Lenten 5w13.

Marischal, Humble, East Linden, or Patrusy 25th 1996, Ground friend of the Matthew family. Funeral

of the Royal United Hospital James Envirol Alless Hospital James Historia Rivers Alless Historia Rivers Hospital Service Alless Historia Rivers Hospital Service Rivers Hospital Service Rivers Alless and Tody, Function of Monday 4th March 18 (2014) and 18 MOLIUS. Communication of the C

DEATHS

JONES - On Petroney 26th, Shanan, adored wife of Dick, mother of Gordon, Pumy, Sharen dec'd) and Roger. Grunny Shown in Bathala and Tironey. Happy memories of her great style, her courage, her love and her laughter will live foreyer. Thankagaving Service and information of miles on Friday. March Let et St. Nicholas Church, Pyriford at 12 mon. Flowers Gelter 9,30 ms on Thursday, February 25th) or couptries to C. Bouthi & Son. Fundral Directors. Byficet. Tel. 01932 348087.

MYERS - Donald Temple, Architect. Author and leventer. Author and leventer. See a consideration of the constant colleges. Function of the constant colleges. Function of the constant colleges. Function of the constant of th

PURITOR - the Arture Filliam
Poynton G.C.M.G. on
Saturday 24th Fobruary
1996 penetrally, aged 90.
Belaved husband of
Elimenta talker of John.
Cornector and Arms, and
grandfallow of 7
grandchildren. Funeral
Britis of St Penetral
Lawren only. Demantics if
families to The Order of 81
John Co. J.B. Shahmponne
Ltd., 67 George Street.
Cropton CRO 11D.

DEATHS

POSITER - Many this Press) died peacetailly at Lymington on 24th February 1996, Much Joved mother, grandmother and great-grandmother and great-grandmother. Fuperal Service at St John's Church. Hartley Wintney on Monday. 4th March at 2 ptt. Pumily flowers only please but donations to her memory may be made to the National Trust or Royal National hattlink for the Doaf c/o Dissand and Son Fuseral Director. Lyminghm 8043 9004.

PRICE - Lillan Owendolen of Perias House, Maharm on 28th February passerulty. Cremation Wortcaster Crematorium 14.30 hrs Monday & March, Family Sowers enty. Docation to Private of the Cidenty, 42 Sany Street, Lances Swill GLZ.

BAY - On Saturday 24th Petruary and heart at home. Jose Sinsbarn, widow of Brigarder John Richard Rollings Bay Cast. Mr. Ind. Regulet Rollings Bay Cast. Mr. Ind. Regulet Rollings Bay Cast. Mr. Ind. Regulet Rollings at St. Michael Abbey. Furnborungh, Hampshire, on Wadnesday 6th March 1996 at 10.30 am followed by interment in Skip Louer Comessy. Family Howers only please but doualions if desired to The Macratillan Nurses c/o Ford Means & Pariners. S42 Fernborungh Hond. Paraborungh, Hamb. wit 602,262) 549336.

Thursday 22nd Pebruary on Thursday 22nd Pebruary effer a long light against concer berse with courses and 71 imposed of the late the course of the late of the lat

SERDELL - Peter Vivian.
Pries, on 22rd Petersary.
Dearly loved father of
Primen. David send Scien.
Fuscul at St Pen'la. Whiley
Bay, on 1st March at 1 pm.
Panelly flowers only.
Demann. If entred to St.
Panelly. Whiley Bay.

STABL - See Dakymple

STREET - terren Lett. on 25th February 1996 peacefully efter a short limit. For since 200 years belowed companion and wife of Peter Stretil, much loved mother of Charles and linear decision of the last R.C. Missing 1150 and Lin Mathiesa. Crematorium on Prior ist More at 5 pt. Relatives and friends witcome. Discourant beams of flowers please to Sir Michael Sobell House. Heedington Octored OX3 or The Smill Amenity Ford. Actand Hespital. Oxford OX2.

DEATHS

THOMPSON - On Pabrunry
21st 1996. at Chere Home.
Values-con-Themes. Burrey.
Jack Evens. dearly loved husband of the late Lucy
Thompson. Fameral Service Treeday March Bith at Randalls Purk Cremasurium.
Leatherbead, at 12 moop.
Plowers if deared to F.W.
Palme. 108 High Street.
Eaber. Surrey.
TOP - Nuncy on Thursday.
Princers 22nd 1996. and
26 years, punchulty at but home.
Petronry 22nd 1996. and
26 years, punchulty at but home.
In Charminster.
Dorset. Much loved by him family and friends. Funeral Barvice 11.45 am Schorday
March 2nd at 8t Mary's.
Church. Charminster.
Flowers and englitten to Grassly Funeral Service, 16
Princes Street. Dorchester.
Lorset DT1 1TW. bel:
(0.309) 226538.
UPTON - VIC, un Pubrunry
22rd at Maidetone Hospital, dearly loved husband to Jinnie, loving faither of Pendope and Januifer and devoted grandfather. Private cremelion followed by a Memorial Service at 6t Peter's Church. labthum.
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PUBLIC NOTICES

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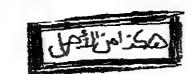
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LEL I



OBITUARIES

Pat Smythe, OBE, international showjumper, died from heart disease yesterday aged 67. She was born on November 22, 1928.

n international showjumping, one of the few sports in which men and women come together on level terms, Pat Smythe was the world's most successful woman ever. Lieutenant-Colonel Sir Harry Llewellyn, an Olympic gold medal winner, described her as "an all-time great, the best lady rider I have

With Prince Hal and Tosca in particular, two difficult and temperamental horses, bought for a song, she had an amazing run of successes. This led to other people sending her their horses to her to jump, including Lord King of Warmaby; the Hon Dorothy Paget, the eccentric racehorse owner, and Robert Hanson, master of the Grove and Rufford Hunt and father of Lord Flanson.

But Pat Streythe was not one of today's sponsored sports stars. In order to get into showjumping, pay her horse's keep and show entry fees she worked weekends and in school holidays, milking cows, repairing farm walls and selling vegetables.

She became a household name because during her 17 years at the top, television seemed besotted by showjumping. At the start of her international career the sport was still largely dominated by the officers of such smart prewar cavalry schools as Saumur, Tor di Quinto and Fort Riley. Tiggy rode big horses and they rode in uniform. The TV audiences warmed to the fresh young woman in black coat and cap. iding a pony-size horse, yet still able to beat the men on big occasions — even to beat them with ease.

Smythe won grand prix events on her own horses in more countries than any man or woman has done since. She won in the United States, France, Belgium, Spain, Portugal, Italy, Switzerland The Vetherlands, and Denmark. In Australia, South Africa and South America she won grand prix events on borrowed horses that she had first seen less than a week before. In 1956 she was the first woman to ride in the showjumping at the Olympic Games and the first to win a medal, a bronze. Women had previously been banned by the Olympic authorities on the ground that it was not fair to them to compete against the men. Indeed in her early days Smythe sometimes inadvertently caused embarrassment. "Sorry about this, we were not expecting a woman rider to be as good as you," said Mr Justice Wyllie, chairman of the Royal Dublin Horse Show, presenting her with the prize for the show's most successful international rider - the prize was a silver ciear box.

Yet Smythe had neither the strong leg nor strong back thought to be essential for a leading rider at international level. Her gift was rather the rapport she developed

treated as friends with whom to cooperate for the best results, and never ever as machines to be booted into the winning slot. Horse and rider blended with a harmony seldom seen in top sport. Together they would saunter into a big arena, always at the walk, and not looking at all like winners. But Smythe seemed to imbue her mounts with her indomitable will to win.

Her favourite was Prince Hal. She saw him finishing last in the Kim Muir Chase at the Cheltenham Gold Cup meeting. It was love at first sight. Closer inspection revealed a bowed tendon. Amazingly in the circumstances, she and her mother reckoned they could get the horse sound and turn him into a showjumper. They paid £300 for him. He won them thousands in return. On the North American jumping circuit, Smythe was to win, all five international events at Harrisburg on Prince Hal. The headlines in the local paper ran: "One Girl Bests All the Americans." Smythe repeated the performance on the same horse at the even more competitive Brussels Invernational.

She was brilliant on the big occasions. She won the Gold Buttons of Algiers on Prince Hal, Africa's most covered showjumping prize. But perhaps the most memorable aspect of this win was the outstandingly high quality of the competition. Smythe beat three men who between them had taken four Olympic gold medals and one world championship

Prince Hal was at the height of his powers at the time of the 1960 Rome Olympics. Smythe was near to tears when she was picked for the team without him but the team trainer, Colonel Jack Talbot-Ponsonby, declared that he would not have "a thin-skinned broken-down racehorse on his team". A Weedon cavalryman of the old school, his idea of an Obympic horse was one that looked like a prewar officer's charger. Smythe had the last laugh. Riding Prince Fial at the very next show after the Rome Olympics she beat both the gold and silver medallists in a major event.

There is always danger and sometimes. damage when competing at the highest level on a flery, difficult horse. On Tosca's first international abroad, at Nice. Smythe took a crashing fall. She lay on the ground motionless and spectators wondered if she was still alive. She did not jump again at that show. But four months later horse and rider took the most important national title of them all, the Leading Showjumper of the Year champ-torship at Wembley. And for two years they were to be the biggest moneywinners in British showjumping.

Smythe took four individual European titles. She was the first woman to win the famous international, the Hickstead Derby, riding Robert Hanson's Flanagan. Lord King's Mr Pollard finally won her the Queen Elizabeth Cup, after a string of with each and every horse. Horses were a seconds on other horses. On two of the

to be strong

PAT SMYTHE



four occasions that she won the Royal International Show supreme championship it was on the Hon Dorothy Paget's Scorchin, a horse she was later to drive to a Ralli cart round the Gloucestershire meds near her home.

However, though showjumping was Smythe's career it was one that dominated her life. In her spare time at international shows she would be polishing up her languages, visiting an incredible number of local sights, and in the evening in the hotel she would strum local songs on her guitar, while everybody joined in the singing. She also became a bestselling author of children's books, as well as spending the latter years of her life working for the preservation of rare animals and the environment.

Smythe was born in Barnes. Her childhood was in many ways difficult, especially during the Second World War. Her father, a civil engineer Major Eric Smythe, was already an invalid by 1939 and her mother had to give up her job — schooling horses for the polo proprietor. Billy Walsh — to nurse him herself. He died in 1944. Smythe had attended six different

schools by the age of 15. From Oakhill in Wimbledon, she then went to Downe House, Seaford; Fern House and also Fonthill Abbey in Wiltshire, Pate's Grammar School and later St Michael's in

Cheltenham, and Thornton Heath, Bournemouth. Relatives who had lost their own children in the war helped out with school fees. They hoped that she would go on to higher education, offering to finance it.

She matriculated at 15 and won the school's top biology prize. Later she was to say that her biology studies at school were a great help to her, when she travelled the world decades later on conservation work. But higher education was not for her. She announced to the formidable Miss Freda Sykes, who was headmistress of Thornton Heath at the time, that she was quitting after five terms. She wanted to be a showiumper, and she had a sick horse. Finality, that needed nursing. It was necessary for her to earn money to pay for the horse's keen.

At this time Smythe, her mother and her elder brother Ronald were living in a rented house in the Gloucestershire countryside. They grew vegetables in the garden and at weekends Pat would harness up the porry Pixie to a cart, drive into Cheltenham and sell the produce to hotels and boarding houses. During the school holidays she worked on a nearby farm. She also learnt to repair the Cotswold stone walls of the area.

Later the family moved to two rooms in Bath. Mrs Smythe gave children riding lessons and got to work, together with her daughter, repairing the stables at Bath racecourse which had been damaged by wartime bombing.

Their next move was to the country, to Miserden, where they turned their home into a guest-house for 12 students from Cirencester Agricultural College during the term and took in foreign children wishing to learn English in the holidays. This provided them with sufficient income to live and to finance Pat's showjumping, She was then 20. But though the guesthouse flourished. Pat's mother died three years later when her car skidded on an icy

Despite all her struggles, friends could only remember Smythe being bitter once - the afternoon that her mother died. The bank manager rang to say that he had to call in a debt of £1,500 that had been loaned for the conversion of the house. Always practical, Smythe sold Leona, her most promising international horse at the time, to Swiss friends for £1,500. The guest-house continued, staff being hired to take the place of her mother.

Smythe began to write books and had II published by the age of 30. Her children's series, The Three Javs, an ongoing story of children, their ponies and their farm animals, was translated into several languages. She published her autobiography Jump For Joy, to be followed by Jumping Life's Fences. This dramatically changed her financial position, at least for

She purchased Sudgrove, a fine country house in the Cotswolds with stables and paddocks for her horses, and invited showjumping friends, Sir Harry and Lady Llewellyn, to come and see it. They were appalled at its dilapidated state and the erratic electricity and water supplies, neither of which came from the mains. Smythe nonetheless decided to go ahead. She craved a home of her own after all the years of lettings and leases. When she went to live in Switzerland, Sudgrove continued to be a guest-house for stu-

In 1963, aged 35, she married Sam Koechlin, a Swiss lawyer and businessman, Sir Malcolm Sargent, the conductor, chose the singers for the ceremony and Lord Beaverbrook lent his London flat for the honeymoon. The couple had met 12 years before when he had come to study at the London School of Economics and his horse had come with him for him to ride in the Badminton Horse Trials and been accommodated in his future wife's stables.

for some twenty years Smythe accompanied her husband on business trips all over the world, finding an outlet for her second love, the preservation of rare animals and conservation of the environment. In summer there were visits to the family villa on an island on Lake Lucerne. In winter they would ski from the family chalet at Wengen where Pat kept up with British friends at the Downhill Only Club. Their home was a house of Cotswoldcoloured stone which they had built on the sunny side of the Jura mountains. Building work was slow until Smythe hung on the biggest tree in the village an open invitation to supper and a dance. A great evening for the builders and all their friends resulted in the house being finished with astonishing rapidity.

After her husband's death Smythe returned to Sudgrove. She had had a succession of illnesses, many of them developing from bad falls from her very early days of showjumping. She had several leg operations. Both her hips were replaced and at the age of 56 she was found to have a generic heart fault. She also developed crippling osteoporosis.

But Smythe never really retired. She redoubled her efforts on behalf of the World Wildlife Fund, travelling the world on inspections as a member of its international committee. She was involved with a number of conservation groups, and always actively so. Local events such as church fêtes always meant

much to her. Long after she had been forced to give up showjumping she remained involved in the sport as an international selector. and sometimes, thef d'equipe of British teams abroad. From 1986 to 1989 she was president of the British Showjumping Association. She was appointed OBE in

She is survived by her two daughters.

THE DUKE OF ATHOLL

George lain Murray, 10th pruke of Amoll, died of a stroke yesterday aged 64. He was born on July 10. 1931. ..

THE DUKE OF ATHOLL was Scotland's most perennially eligible bachelor. The laird of Blair Atholl and Chief of the Name of Murray, he sported a private army and was a familiar figure at Caledonian Balls, sometimes as of Atholi has not been straightescort to Princess Margaret.

1. 2.35

lain. He possessed a patrician smile, an impressive and distinctive nose, and a full head of hair. In 1989 an estate worker paid him a rare com-pliment — "He was a poor sort of creature when he came here, A real Englishman, no beef on him. Now he looks a duke - and acts like one knows every man on the estate

by name." The succession of the Dukes forward, owing to several was known in Perth as "wee produce heirs. Indeed, the wife Katharine, "the Red

Atholl succession has been a curiously barren one over the centuries, dying out on more than one occasion. Tenth in the line of dukes, Iain Atholi descended from the 3rd Duke but from none of his

The 4th Duke gave birth to the 5th Duke (who died unmarried in 1846) and was, in turn, succeeded by his neph-ew. The 6th Duke left an only child, the 7th Duke, who had four sons, among them both He looked every inch a dukes dying unmarried, and the 8th Duke is man of consid-duke, and standing 6ft 3in, he many male Murrays failing to crable public service, whose

Duchess", was childless) and the 9th Duke (who succeeded his brother). He died unmarried in 1957.

It was upon his death that the dukedom reverted to his very distant cousin. Jain. a descendant in the seventh generation of the 3rd Duke, who had died in 1805. Interestingly the 10th Duke is now succeeded by his almost equally distant cousin, John Murray, who lives in South Africa and was born in 1929 (three potential heirs having died since 1957).

However, the late Duke of

BESEARCH BITO AGEING

Imposing the Guildy of Labor (the native), patients, patients gens une Regional Charty No. 177400

Atholl is likely to be the last of his line to live in Blair. He apparently formed a some-what unfavourable impression of his successor and decided that the South African would almost certainly prefer to remain the other side of the Equator. For that reason he made plans to leave Blair to his half-sister. Sarah Troughton and her children. The duke suffered a bad stroke earlier this month, and only this week his factor announced the creation of the Blair Charitable Trust to ensure that the duke's wishes were fulfilled

This was no passing whim. Many years before the estate had been saved from bankruptcy by the intervention of Iain Atholl's mother's family. She was Angela Pearson, third daughter of the 2nd Viscount Cowdray and twin sister of the 4th Viscount. In the 1930s the Atholls were facing financial hardship due to death duties. Anticipating the succession of Iain as duke, Angela's mother, Viscountess Cowdray, bought the controlling shares in a private company and the whole of the Atholi estate and all the possessions were handed over to it. To this the 10th Duke succeeded in due course, the family fortune restored.

lain Murray was born in 1931 and educated at Eton and Christ Church, Oxford. His father. Lieutenant-Colonel George Murray, commanded the Scottish Horse (Territorial Army) during the Second World War and was killed in action in Italy in April 1945, a controlling interest. A year

just before VE-Day, when lain was a boy of 13. Although he had two younger brothers, the first died before he was two years old in 1934 and the other lived but a day. His father having been an only child, he was bereft of close male Murray relations, though in the wider sense there was no shortage of them (including the late Stephen Murray, the actor farmed for The Navy Lark on Radio 41.

The 10th Duke's main occupation was as a publisher. He was chairman of Westminster Press from 1974, a company in which his mother's family had

after inheriting the dukedom, he was elected as a Scottish representative peer to sit at Westminster. (In 1963 all Scottish peers were granted that right.) His other interests were cultural and charitable. He was president of the Royal National Life-boat Institution from 1979 to 1989. Since 1977 he had been a vice-president of the Scottish National Trust. He was also president of the International Sheepdog Society from 1982 to 1983 and from

The 10th Duke's great delight in life was Blair Atholi. his ancient castle on the wide Strath of Garry, with a com-

1988 to 1989.

manding position on the main route through the central Highlands. The history of the place suffered the traditional difficulties of so many Scottish castles in a variety of turbulent times. It did not assume its present aspect until 1869. Much of the duke's time was spent managing the 120,000-acre estate. In 1991 he attended President and Mrs Reagan at the castle, inaugurating the President as an honorary member of the Keepers of the Quaich.

He was a genial and retiring man, fond of stalking and golf and riding on the estate. He enjoyed nothing more than turning out with his private army, the Atholl Highlanders. (In 1844 Queen Victoria had granted the Atholls the unique privilege of having an army. They were unkindly dubbed "Dad's Army in kilis".) Denied family happiness, he was a zealous attender at local functions. From time to time he made appearances in the gossip columns, his name linked with some hopeful future duchess. There was even an occasion when he had to fend off the attentions of Lindi St Clair ("Miss Whiplash"), who sent him a pornographic video of herself in an ill-conceived attempt to lure him. He was trampled by a herd of cows in 1993.

At Blair there is a private graveyard a few minutes' walk from the castle, where his immediate ancestors and his mother are all buried. The 10th Duke will also be interred

PERSONAL COL TICKETS FOR SALE FLIGHTS ... ANNOUNCEMENTS UK BOLIDAYS CHECK-IN

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COMBAT STRESS

" FOKTY-THREE " NIGHT CLUB.

WOMAN PROPRIETOR FINED 1250.

At Bow-street Police Court, yesterday, Sr. Chartres Biron fined Mrs. KATE EVELYN MEYRICK, 47, of Devoushire-street, WC, E20 and 35 guineas costs, and ERIC GORDON. 2h. har usanager, E0 and five guineas costs, for selling intoricating liquor without a licence at the "Forty-Three" Clob. Gerrard-street, Soho. A similar charge against Miss MARY MEYRICK. rony-time: Cam. Gerrard-speer, Sono. A similar charge against Miss MARY MEYRICK.

21. (Mrs Meyrick's daughter), was withdrawn.

Mr. Muskett, prosecuting, said that the establishment had been conducted as an unrepistered and disorderly night club, and was a serious public unimage. The premises were taken by Mrs. Meyrick on a 10 were' lease from last registed a substitute of the premises were taken by Mrs. Meyrick on a 10 years' lease from lass November at 1660 a year. Admission to the club was open to anyone by delets, obtainable at an office opposite, at 10s, 6d, 52°s pl for men and 6s, 6d, 52°s pl for women. There was a small room on the premises, which was habitually used for unlawful drinking. When the police made their reality, at 150 a.m. on Sunday, February 19, there were about 60 persons during in the hall in the haseness, 40 or 50 men and women in the hounge on the ground floor, and 11 or 12 in the bar, many of whom were under the influence of drink. The door of the har was kept locked, and Gordon was found just outside with the key in his hand. The tharge sande for what might properly be described as a "dop "of whisky was is, 6d [72p]. On seven nights between February 5 and

ON THIS DAY

February 28, 1922 类型制金融

In the 1920s Mrs Kate Meyrick was a much-publicised figure in the night club world and was regularly in trouble with the authorities. She died in 1933,

February 19 observation was kept inside the premises by two police officers, who were admined by ticket, and had the free run of the

place. Most of the women who frequented the club were of a highly undesirable character, but there was no charge made of any breach of public

morals.

About two years ago. Mr. Muskett continued.

Mrs. Meyrick was fined E5 at that Court for being conserved in conducting Dallon's Club.

Leicester-square, as an habitual resort of prostitutes. The proprietor, Dalton, was fined £75, but the money had never been paid by him, and the police had been unable to execute the warrant for his committed to prison in default. A distressing feature of the case was that Mrs. Meyrick's daughter, against whom the present charge had

been withdrawn, was also found to be in association with Dairon's Clob. One would have thought that a mother would have had bener regard for the moral upbringing of her daughter.

Mr. J. A. C. Keeves, for Mrs. Meyrick, said that she left her husband four years ago on account of his cruelty. She had eight children under 21, and her husband only allowed her 15s. [75p] a week. In connection with Dairon's Club, she lost £560, and she had oald £1.500 for the lease of the premises in

On behalf of Gordon, Mr Harry Myers said that he had no financial interest in the club, and

the had paid £1,500 for the lease of the premises in

was only a paid servant.

Mr Muskett mentioned that £26.9s, [£26.45] was expended by the police in watching both the outside and inside of the club. GEORGE HEATH and JAMES HEATH, brothers, doorkeepers of the club, were each fined £5 for obstructing the entrance of the police.

ANOTHER NIGHT CLUB RAIDED. ANOTHER NIGHT CLUB RAIDED.

At Mariborough-street Police Court yesterday, PEARL LYNDON, dancing club proprietress, was fined £120 and 18 guineas costs by Mr. d'Eyncourt for selling intoxicants without a licence at Merry's Dance Club, Little Denmark-street, W.C., and HENRY WALL, 31, bar attendant, was fined £90 and 18 guineas costs for aiding and abetting her.

Mr JAC. Keeves, for Lyndon, said she had been well known on the stage, but had come down

Prior restraint requires certainty

Queen's Bench Division

British Data Management

ple v Boxer Commercial Removals plc and Another Before Lard Justice Hirst, Lord Justice Aldous and Sir Iain

[Judgment February 22]

In an action for a quia timet mjunction to restrain the publication of a threatened libel there had to be reasonable certainty as to the words of the threatened publication, which would normally require the pleading of the actual

words or words to the same effect. Therefore, an action for an injunction to restrain publication company was guilty of civil wrongs or criminal offences in relation to the contents of its accounts, annual reports or share prospectus would be struck out for failing to meet that test.

The Court of Appeal so held in a reserved judgment allowing an appeal by the defendants. Boxer rmercial Removals plc and Mr. Paul Todd, against the refusal of Mr Justice Forbes in the Oueen's Bench Division on March II, 1994 to strike out an action by the plantiffs, British Data Manage-ment ple, for an injunction restraining them from publishing or broadcasting any statement to any parties concerning the plaintiffs or any of its subsidiary cumpanies to the effect that they were guilty of criminal offences,

Before the hearing of the appea the plaintiffs amended the terms of the injunction sought to one restraining the defendants "from publishing any statement concerning the plaintiffs or any of them to the effect that they are guilty of civil wrongs or criminal offences in relation to the contents of company

Before Lord Justice Swinton

Thomas, Mr Justice Harrison and Mr Justice Thomas

An order of the court refusing to

grant legal aid to cover a solicitor's

proposed expenses should be

honoured. In the present case, retrospective legal aid would be

granted to cover expenses only and

The Court of Appeal, Criminal

Division, so stated having dis-

missed appeals by Abdul Haq and

Muhammed Saleem against their convictions in December 1991 at

Leeds Crown Court (Mr Justice

Ian Kennedy and a jury) of murder

for which they were sentenced to

Mr Simon Hawkesworth, OC

Regina v Saleem

Judgment February Iti

not profit costs

placement of shares in British

Data Management plc." The Court of Appeal proceeded on the basis that leave to amend would be granted if the action

Mr Andrew Nicol, QC and Mr David Price, solicitor, for the defendants: Mr Desmond Browne, QC and Mr Harry Boggis-Rolle for the plaintiffs.

LORD JUSTICE HIRST, giving the judgment of the court, said that important issue in the law of defamation had arisen, namely whether an action for a quia timet injunction was maintainable to restrain a defendant from publishing a threatened libel by a plaintiff who could not prove with any degree of certainty the words which the threatened publication

was going to contain. The judge had acknowledged that it was normally incumbent on a plaintiff to specify the precise words of which he complained However, if the allegation which was threatened and identified was one which was clearly defamatory in nature, and not capable of any other reasonable analysis, then the court would be able to prevent the publication of such a threatened words of the allegation were not

The defendants submitted that it was a fundamental principle of words of the libel should be set out and that it was not sufficient merely to state their gist or substance. That strict rule applied at all stages, including an application for a quia timet injunction, otherwise the defendant did not know the case he had to meet on

Legal aid order was not followed

and Mr John Elvidge, who did not appear below, for Haq; Mr Aidan Marron, QC and Mr Stephen Twist for Saleem; Mr Simon

Bourne-Arion, QC and Mr David Hatton for the Crown.

THOMAS, having given the judg-ment of the court dismissing the

appeals, dealt with the question of

An application for legal aid to

cover the cost of interviewing two

witnesses in Pakistan had been

made at a directions hearing

presided over by Lord Justice Evans who had made it quite clear

that legal aid could not be extended

for a second visit by the appellants'

solicitor to Pakistan until the case

generally had been out in order, at

which point the matter would be

However, the solicitor, having

LORD JUSTICE SWINTON

whether or not the words were defamatory and could not judge whether or to what extent he might be able to plead justification or

aualified privilege The defendants submitted that if that test was too stringent, there must none the less be a very high degree of precision in the formula-tion of the plea and that the plaintiffs' statement of claim woefully failed to meet that test.

The plaintiffs submitted that the judge's approach was entirely sound, and conformed with con mon sense so as to do justice between the parties. It was quite wrong to introduce a pedantic and inflexible rule, particularly in a situation where the plaintiffs could not identify the words because they did not know them.

While they accepted that the gist must be sufficiently precise for the court to say whether any particular form of published words would fall within its scope, it would be wrong to apply that test too stringently particularly pending discovery, when a more precise text or draft might become available to the

In the court's judgment, it was not possible to accept the defen-dants first submission that it was invariably necessary for the plain-tiff to plead or allege verbatim the very words of which he com-plained, provided he set them out with reasonable certainty.

The nurpose of a statement of to know the case that he had to meet so that he could properly plead his case so that the issues were sufficiently defined to enable the appropriate questions to be

In a libel case, the first question

already booked a flight to Pakistan decided to go. Counsel therefore requested that legal aid be ex-

tended to cover his costs which

amounted to a total of some £3,000, including his air (are, hotel

Their Lordships had some sym

pathy with the solicitor because he

was trying to do his best for his

client but as against that the position had been made quite clear

that legal aid was not being

In all the circumstances, their

Lordships had decided that a

Legal aid would be extended to

cover the air fare and out of pocket

expenses but would not include

Solicitors: Perfitt & Hardcastle.

Huddersfield: Crown Prosecution

expenses and profit costs.

extended at that time.

compromise was fair.

Service Wakefield

depended on their meaning. Next, a number of questions might arise on defences which the defendant might wish to raise.

That purpose would not be achieved unless the words were pleaded with sufficient particularity to enable the defendant not only to understand what it was the plaintiff alleged that they meant, whether they had that meaning.

Moreover, whenever an injunction was sought, such particularity frame an injunction defining with reasonable precision what the delendant was restrained from

That was why there must in all cases be reasonable certainty as to the words complained of, or in the case of a quia timet injunction what words were threatened, and normally that would require the pleading of the actual words or words to the same effect. Only on that basis could the case

proceed properly through the interlocutory and pleading stages to trial, and then to the formulation of the questions to be put to the jury and to a proper answer to

The plaintiffs' pleading had signally failed to meet that test, since there was no certainty what-soever, let alone reasonable certainty, as to the actual words of which the plaintiffs prospectively A plea of the words with reason-

able certainty was required before any resort to discovery in the hope of ascertaining the precise words so that the pleading could be suitably amended. It was not permissible to put forward a wholly vague allegation in the hope that discovery would later come to the rescue.

There was a further problem of considerable importance. If the case were allowed to proceed, it would end up in a trial before Judge and Jury, at the end of which the jury would have to reach their verdict on the basis of questions propounded by the judge in his mming up. The first question would be: "On

the balance of probability, are the defendants imminently threatening to publish words concerning the plaintiffs and each of them accusing them of the commiss of civil or criminal offences and of such other conduct as will bring them into disrepute?"

Such a question would be hope-

lessly vague and imprecise and wholly inappropriate for consideration by a jury; furthermore the problem would be compounded if further issues were raised, the defence of justification, requiring further questions, to which the same objection would apply. Solicitors: David Price & Co;

Barciays Bank plc v Weeks Legg & Dean (a Firm) Before Mr John Toulmin, QC

Judgment February 9 An undertaking by a purchaser's solicitor to a lending bank that moneys would be applied for a good merchantable title was not breached when the land was bject to a right of way.

Mr John Toulmin, QC, sitting as a deputy judge of the Queen's Bench Division, so held when dismissing a claim by Barclays Bank plc for damages against Weeks Legg & Dean, a firm of solicitors, arising out of a loan made by the bank to finance the land by a company. The bank claimed that the solicitor had been in breach of an undertaking given on the bank's standard form

Mr Jonathan Nash for the bank; Miss Genevra Caws. QC and Mr Richard McManus for the

HIS LORDSHIP said that prior to the auction the bank gave the ers were unaware that a right of term "good merchantable title" way had been granted over the property until the title to the land had been investigated by their solicitors after the auction.

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The solicitors were under an obligation to hold funds from the bank on trust for the bank until completion and not to release then to the vendors until they had delivered to them documents of title which conformed to the COUNTRACT

The solicitors signed an under-taking before completion that any sums received from the bank would be applied solely for acquiring a good marketable title to the Although the solicitors were

aware of the right of way at the time of the undertaking they had not considered it their duty to nform the bank expecting it to have made its own investig The bank had not investigated

the title to the property at any point. His Lordship accepted that there had been nothing to indicate that the bank was relying on the solicitors to investigate the title on

Regina v Registered Homes ment of claim.

is relevant

Financial viability

Tribunal, Ex parte Hertfordshire County Council Before Mr Justice Tuckey

[Judgment February 9] The financial viability of a person or business seeking registration of a proposed nursing home under the Registered Homes Act 1984 was relevant in determini whether to refuse the application.

Mr Justice Tuckey so held in the Queen's Bench Division when allowing an application by the Hertfordshire County Council for, inter alia, judicial review of the decision of the Registered Homes Tribunal on November 3, 1995 that the financial viability of the person or the business seeking registration under the 1984 Act was not a relevant criterion for the purposes of section 9(c) of that Act.

Following refusal by the council of a company's application on the ground of lack of economic viability under section 9(c), the company appealed to the tribunal which ruled that the council's evidence under section 9(c) to prove that the company was not financially vi-able was not relevant to that provision and therefore evidence had to be limited to that which showed that the proposed financial provision for specific "services or " would not be reasonable, The tribunal stated that such evidence might have been relevant to section 9(a) but refused the

council leave to amend its state-Section 9 of the 1964 provides:

The registration authority may refuse to register an applicant ... if satisfied (a) that be ... is not a fit person to be concerned in carrying on a residential care home; (b) that ... the premises used ... for the purposes of the home . . . are not fit to be so used; or (c) that the way in which it is intended so carry on the home is such as not to provide services or facilities reasonably

Mr Philip Engelman for the council; Ms Megan Thomas for the company.

MR JUSTICE TUCKEY said that it was obvious that the section's provisions were overlap-ping. The way in which they were intended to operate had to include the means available to fund the provision of services or facilities isonably required.

Understandably the council had been very concerned that a home should start and then founder and anything more damaging his Lordship could not imagine. The decision to prevent the council from putting its case under section 9(c) therefore was incorrect in lav and would be quashed.

Solicitors: Jameson & Hill, Hert-ford; Tilly Bailey & irvine,

bore a technical meaning of a title free from all encumbrances. The defendants contended, however, that good merchantable title was to be contrasted with a good holding His Lordship reviewed the

authorities and concluded that as between vendor and purchaser the phrase "good merchantable title" was capable of bearing the meaning contended for by the defennts when related to completion of a conveyance in land.

When used in a contract it might carry with it the implication open market title contended for by e plaintiffs since a purchaser was not required to take subject to incumbrances which had not been disclosed in the contract.

His Lordship was satisfied that good marketable title did not in all nstances bear the technical meaning of the plaintiffs, It was therefore necessary to look at the surrounding circumstances relatig to the particular undertaking. It seemed to his Lordship that in the circumstances the undertaking referred forward to stens to be

the purchaser. Had it intended the do so it would have used the term open market title" which did bear the technical meaning of a title free from incumbrances His Lordship also had in mind the fact that banks did on occasion

had already been the subject of the

contract between the vendor and

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make their own inquiries on title and where they instructed solicitors so to do they expected to pay them a separate fee even in tho ses where they had also done so for the purchaser.

Further, the present undertaking was only sought immediately before completion. If it had been intended to relate to the terms of the contract his Lordship would instructed solicitors at a much earlier stage in order that there would be a proper opportunity for the bank to investigate the terms of the contract if necessary. His Lordship therefore concluded that the undertaking bore the meaning contended for by the defendant and the claim failed.

Solicitors: Lovell White Durrant;

Parental order not to be used as weapon

In re H (Minors) (Parental responsibility order: Maintenance)

Before Lord Justice Leggatt and Mr Justice Douglas Brown Judgment February 21

The court should not use its power order, under section 4(1) of the Children Act 1989, as a weapon to withhold the grant of such an order to force a father, who refused to make maintenance payments for his child's upkeep, to make such payments to assist in the financial upkeep of the child.

The Court of Appeal so held allowing the father's appeal against the order of Judge Cartin In Milton Keynes County Court on August 23, 1995, that, inter alia, the father's application for parental responsibility orders in respect of the two children should be adjourned for the applicant to demonstrate his commitment to the financial upkeep.

Miss Camille Habboo for the father: Mrs Joy Pinkham for the

LORD JUSTICE LEGGATT said that the judge was right to criticise the father for not pulling weight financially in paying

The father was not relieved from that responsibility by the fact that mother and he was sufficiently intelligent to understand that In the present case, the order proper credit to the father's six tained attempts at maintaining contact with the children. It had to be in their interest that they had contact with him.

By section I(Z), orders relating to a child's upbringing should be made without delay so as not to prejudice his or her welfare. Deplorable though it was that the father failed to pay maintenance, that did not disentifie him from a parental responsibility order in his

There were other ways of making him pay, and a "wait and see order" was inappropriate.

MR JUSTICE DOUGLAS BROWN, agreeing, said that it was wrong to postpone the making of the order indefinitely. In carrying out the balancing exercise he was required to do, the judge placed too much reliance on the father's obstinacy.

There were other important factors in the case the father's genuine interest in the children's welfare and education, his attachment to them and the fact that he had eminimized contact with them. Solicitors: Geoffrey Leaver, Milton Keynes: Paul. Montgomery. Northampton.

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Television loves to hype disasters because they make good photo-opportunities but what about the less photogenic stories?

the only time I was in Milford Haven, the air smelt of oil, although I did not mention it to the Welsh relatives with whom we had tea. The air smelt that way too last week, only now the cause was an oil tanker wreck.

Did you detect the note of disappointment among the army of anorak-clad television reporters assigned to the Pembrokeshire clifftops? Shrieking against the wind, hour by hour they warned us that with the worsening weather and/or the next incoming tide, the Sea Empress was certain to break up on the rocks. When she didn't oblige, they turned to the birds and, gooded by the media-smart Greens, threatened that the rotesters Bill area would be haunted for years to come by the greatest ecological disaster to hit the British coastline since the Torrey Canyon in 1967, or at least since the wreck of the Braer

Now I wish no seabird ill and no coastline sullied. But I equally dislike disaster-hype for the sake of

tefeated

n bypass

auri care of

Forget the news, look at the pictures photo opportunity. Oil-drenched birds - or "easualties", as they are now called as they are held up to camera — are simply far more photogenic than shots of politicians going through the lobbies or the cover of the Scott report.

To my New England-reared mind, a far worse case of overdramatisation has been this win-ter's weather. Television news editors should ban shots of ex-treme Arctic conditions which show grass sticking up through the snow. And reporters in winter battledress, delivering apocalyptic semons about staying home by the fire and not setting out on any journey unless equipped with blankets and flasks of warm inquid, should be forbidden to conclude with the ominous words "And there's worse to come". For

It's the effect on the young that I

worry about. They are given the impression that they are living in a bumbling country which cannot cope with climatic variations under which our trading partners.

conduct business as usual. It was unfortunate that the tales of Britain's winter nightmare —
Dover cut off — coincided with
photographic reports from iccovered New Hampshire, a state where zero means zero Fahrenheit, and still the presidential primary candidates flew in.

The weather story, if there was one, was of mismanagement. Why should power lines give way in a snowstorm? Why shouldn't cars get stuck in snowdrifts if no one has bothered to plough the roads? But incompetence is less this tratable than (my candidate for the filliest picture of the winter) ITN's shots of a happy mother, with her electricity supply restored, feeding



MADDOX

her children with steaming plates of beans on toast - their first hot food in 20 hours - as if they had

TELEVISION's natural tendency to overplay the pictorial is why I fear for BBC Radio. The decision of the Director-General of the BBC, John Birt, and others to shunt

of Broadcasting House, near Oxford Circus, to Television Centre, in west London, is said to be the main reason for last week's resignation of Liz Forgan, managing director of BBC Radio.

It is had enough to tear the soul out of Broadcasting House. Already the historic corridors seem to open omo seminar rooms filled with earnest young people in suits sitting upright before llip charts. It is more worrying that today's relevision-orientated BBC management seems to see news as a central salami, to be sliced one way or the other along the same conveyor belt.

Like most politicians, they don't seem to understand why the corporation should send separate radio the same event. Radio news is not television news without pictures; ence, works to different deadlines, and gathers and narrates news in a different way. Within the BBC. radio producers enjoy lar more autonomy than their television counterparts, who cannot take a decision without referral through layers of hierarchy.

Similarly, radio reporters have a greater responsibility to the audience. They must describe more, pack more information in, rely on the evidence of their eyes. The famous words - "I counted them all out, I counted them all back," - described a scene that television cameras did

Few doubt that BBC Radio, when at White City, will take second place to television, which has more money and more clout. The distinction between the two media will inevitably blur and their news agendas merge, with television leading the way. Radio news could even be stuck

with the leftovers: soundbites recorded by television's fuzzy-sausage microphones which, to the

trained ear, are of inferior quality. Obviously, more and more news stories will be covered by the same reporter. Now "bimediality" - as ugly a neologism as anything coined in Brussels — is no illusion; one person certainly can do both, just as some people can sing and play the piano. But not many can do both well. And when deadlines clash, guess which medium will

There were tears among BBC Radio staff at Forgan's resignation because they fear devaluation. The move to White City, like the dropping of the word "radio" from the television licence fee, suggests that radio is no longer recognised as the BBC's glory - the activity in which it has no peer on the face of the globe. Any diminution of its status has to be bad news.





Fighting against ITV's tide of soaps and cops

he Campaign for Quality Television, the powerful lobby group of television roducers and celebrities formed in 1990 to influence. government broadcasting policy, is to be relaunched with a new, far-reaching mission to safeguard standards of British production into the 21st centu-

ry and the digital age. The organisation, which successfully lobbled for the introduction of programmequality thresholds in the 1990 Broadcasting Act, made its mark in the ensuing IIV franchise auction with the support of celebrities such as John Cleese, Rowan Atlanson and Esther Rantzen.

Now, with the backing of the independent programmemaker, Ray Fitzwaher, former head of current affairs at Granada, and a number of producers, the campaign has its sights set firmly on the Broadcasting Bill currently passing through Parliament. Once the Bill becomes law, it plans to draft a brand new Broadcasting Bill, intended as a blueprint for a new Parliament and designed to tackle a number of major technological and commercial issues currently left unresolved.

Pitzwalter is concerned that commercial television programming - particularly on ITV - has been driven almost entirely by money since the · 1990 Act came into force.

The grossly imequal licence payments that the different ITV companies have to pay to the Treasury mean that

Alexandra Frean on a battle

to raise standards on screen

There has

to drama

than

detective

stories'

companies have to put the advertiser before the viewer. cannot imagine it doing some-The Channel 5 licence has been launched on exactly the same plan as the ITV licences. There was no public debate about Channel 5 and nobody IIV has decided to do costume considered, for example, that it might be based outside London, Fitzwalter - who is recent successes." As far as the current Broad-

based in Manchester - says. He believes that one of the most striking effects of all this on the screen is the diminution in dito be more versity and range of programming.
Some documenta-

ry, arts and regional programming to the outer limits of the schedules. Asfor drama, there is now an exceptional concentration on two forms, soaps or detective shows "that revolve.

around uniforms, alarm bells, violence and sex". "We have every type of detective you could think of --Victorian, Belgian, Chinese, Jewish and Oxfordshire - and a Lancashire housewife detective. There has to be more to drama than that," he says.

The Campaign for Quality Television would like to see more slots given to contemporary political drama, experimental material and costume drama. There was a time certain impatience with some

casting Bill is concerned, the

campaign intends to press for

a quality threshold

to be used for the

allocation of digital.

television licences.

The campaign

also wants the in-

dependent Tele-

vision Commission

to be given stron-

ger powers to en-sure that more

programming is made in the re-

gions outside

London. It sup-

ports scrapping the

Channel 4 funding formula,

which requires the channel to hand over tens of millions of

pounds to ITV every year.

However, it wants statutory

guarantees obliging Channel 4 to spend a sizeable chunk of

the retained money outside

London. In the longer term,

the campaign plans to press

for the creation of a single

come any organisation dedi-

cated to maintaining stan-

dards in television, there is a

While the broadcasters wel-

broadcasting regulator.

of the campaign's claims. Channel 4's director of programmes, John Willis, agrees that there has been a narrowwhen IIV led the field in ing of range and diversity of historical drama, but now you programmes on the mainstream channels, particularly thing like the BBC's Pride and ITV. Interestingly, ITV's au-Prejudice," Fitzwalter says. "If diences have started to fall. It may be that audiences are becoming resistant to police drama, it is only because it has and doctor series," he says. been stung into it by the BBC's

Willis is wary, however, about the campaign's proposal that Channel 4 be forced to spend a set proportion of its funding-formula money out-side London. "A quota does not ensure good quality tele-vision," he says. Willis adds that of the £188 million that the channel spent on original commissions last year, £35.5 mil-

lion was for programmes made outside the M25. Nick Elliott, controller of drama at the ITV Network Centre, says that more than 50 per cent of the channel's programming is already made outside London. "Of course we are commercially driven, but that does not mean we are run by demons," he says. Elliott rejects the charge that

ITV relies too heavily on detective drama, "We have been taking a lot of police programmes off the screens because they came to the end of their days. There is a tremendous variety coming on stream. We are making adaptations of Moli Flanders and Emma. And Robbie Coltrane is making an adaptation of a Robert Louis Stevenson work called The Ebb-Tide," he says.

JUST how much women

dominate the television au-

The total brand experience

f you ever wanted to see vanity at work, you should have visited . Selfridges this month. Over the past few weeks, 3,000 women have brought their faces to the "beauty playground" where they have had a chance to meet glossy magazine beauty editors and have their own makeovers, courtesy of the likes of Clarins, Lancome and Guerlain.

If that is not your cup of tea, then over the same few weeks you could have met Edwina Currie or the cookery writer Ken Hom at book signings, taken your children to the Kids' Universe Funday Sunday, or charted with Sally Gunnell in the sports department. Over the coming months, chefs such as Antonio Carluccio or Alistair Little will deliver "masterclass" tutorials, Vogue and Harpers & Queen will organise fashion shows, and Carol and Denis Thatcher will preside at a special literary lunch/book signing. "We are adding value to the shopping experience," says a Selfridges spokeswoman.

Meet the latest buzz phrase from the world of marketing: "total brand experience". Having the right product at the right price at the right time is no longer enough. The battle of the brands is moving to new dimensions, to life itself.
At its most basic, marketers have

realised that consumers' contact with brands is not confined to the finely choreographed and tightly controlled world of television advertisements or product packs. Every time we enter a shop pub or aeroplane, how it looks and feels inside, how its staff present themselves and behave, or how we are treated over the telephone, often have a much stronger and more lasting impact on our attitudes than a 30-second commercial.

Expert retailers such as McDonald's do not just sell hamburgers. Everything, from the speed of the service to the Muzak, and the pastel pictures on the wall are part of the McDonald's experience. Likewise, British Airways is extending its "comfort and care zone". "We market a package from check-in to arrival," says Hamish Taylor, BA's general manager for brands.

Now marketers are taking the selling of brand experiences into new realms. Walk along Regent Street in London and, next to the posh jewellery and china shops, you will find that Levis jeans, Warner Brothers and Disney have "dimensionalised" themselves into shops which verge on theme parks, says Gary Withers, head of

Alan Mitchell on the

trend towards

merging marketing with entertainment

Imagination, a firm which specialises in creating events for brands.

So, instead of simply setting up another boring old stall at a recent consumer electronics show at Earls Court, BT decided to "dimensionalise" its slogan, "It's good to talk", with what it claimed was the first worldwide simultaneous rock jamming session on the Internet. It is even rumoured that BT is thinking of funding a television soup opera designed to bring the slogan alive.

Meanwhile, next year Ford plans to open a new type of showroom which it hopes will be the sort of place frustrated dads can take their bored children to on wet winter afternoons. Complete with virtual reality drives, it will be totally entertainment-led. "Marketing and enter-



Ryan Giggs could become part of an interactive football theme park

tainment are beginning to merge," says

Indeed, according to Adam Lury, of the advertising agency HHCL: "In future, big business will court consumers by offering them the chance to access experiences through their brands." In a sense, corporate sponsors already do that. But Mr Lury's agency has gone much further, helping to turn a fizzy drink, Tango, into "the Tango experience", complete with weird and wacky Tango hotlines and outrageous parties.

Likewise, Pepsi-Cola organises an annual Pepsi Max Club which gives youngsters the chance to hobnob with film and sports stars. Pepsi says that for them this is "the ultimate experience".

Brand experience marketing has its drawbacks, of course, "Individual customers want different facets of your offer and at different times. You have to be careful you don't end up alienating people," says BA's Mr Taylor. Besides, it can cost a fortune. Unless, that is, you can get them to pay for it.

If Disney can turn a two-dimensional celluloid mouse into a total 3D Disney experience at Disneyland and make fortune out of it, why can't other brands? Many are edging their way towards it. Nike first set up its Nike Town retail outlets as a sort of 3D advertisement for its brand. It has been so successful as a leisure destination that now it is franchis ing them across the world.

anchester United Football Club does not rule out the possibility of creating a Manchester United theme park. And a senior Rover ten years Rover would be selling "the Rover Experience" alongside its cars. As traffic congestion makes day-to-day driving a nightmare, why not give consumers the chance to put vehicles through their paces on the Rover Racetrack or the Rover Jungle Experience? In this way, brands and branding can, and are, changing beyond all recognition.

But isn't it a little Orwellian? When British Airways begins researching a special aroma you will recognise as soon as you set foot in a BA lounge or aeroplane, so that you can subliminally sense the "BA-ness" around you - as it is now doing - isn't it all going too far? Not at all, says Mr Lury. You can't keep art, life and commerce in separate boxes."

Students of the soundbite

A university is backing the latest media trend, says Bernard Silk

usiness people, no matter how competent they D are in their own field, can become inarticulate or fall into impenetrable jargon when confronted with a television camera or radio microphone.

As the media's appetite for corporate soundbites from City fat cats, beleaguered oil company executives or cashstrapped health chiefs increases, organisations are turning more and more to specialist media training courses to teach them how to cope with the glare of unwelcome publicity.

The latest such course was launched jointly yesterday by Glasgow University and Hamilton As-'It will be sociates, a comalmost as mercial public relations company.

worrying It is the first time that an academic as the real organisation has tearned up with a thing' private training outlit to exploit this burgeoning sector.

Sor Drummond
What makes the Glasgow Bone, the university's vice-

course unique is its access to the university's El million radio and television studio, which is normally used to train media students

Sheila Hamilton, the former head of marketing at BBC Enterprises in Landon, who act up Hamilton Associates in Glasgow in 1992, says that the university studio is as well equipped as a "real" lacility -in fact, when students are not training it is hired out to make elevision programmes.

"People on the course will be in a proper studio, with lights and technicians, and will experience pointed interviewing by a professional well-known TV iournalist. Potentially, it will be as intimidating as the real

thing," she says, Ms Hamilton will visit each client to find areas of particu-lar involvement and then design the course around them. Participants will be given a rough idea in advance about areas to be covered but will have to cope with rough questioning on the spot. Topics may be tricky areas.

perhaps including problem questions previously encountered by people in a business," she

> says. Paddie Christie. a news reporter or Scotland Today. ITV's news pro-gramme for Scot-land, will act as tutor on the course. The course will be overseen by Profes-

principal for marketing and external relations. Staff from local authorities,

health trusts, accountants, solicitors and private firms have already booked courses, and they stand to gain more than just a few technical skills. Ms Hamilton says. "Someone who is recognised as a reliable performer on radio or TV may be called on by the media more frequently. That is good publicity for the individual and the company." she says.

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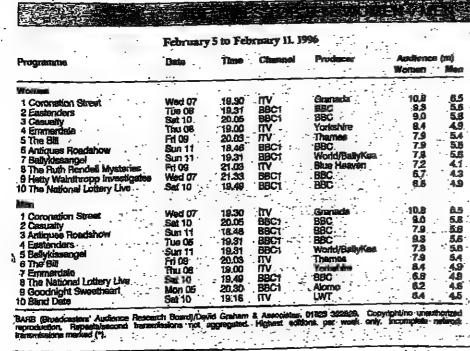
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dience is clearly demonstrated by our television ratings charts this week, which compare the top ten programmes Alexandra Frean writes. What specifically interests advertisers and programme controllers is the extent to which this overall imbalance The programmes with the highest proportion of female viewers are The Ruth Rendell Mysteries on ITV, where 60.5 per cent of the audience are women, and the BBC's new series Hetty. Wainthropp Investigates, where the corresponding fig-are is 583 per cent. Neither programme makes it hato the

men's top ten.

NEWS

Major and Bruton in summit drive

John Major and John Bruton were trying last night to clear away obstacles to a London summit that could breathe life into the Northern Ireland peace process today.

Differences over the announcement of a target date for allparty talks led to frantic negotiations between officials, and the two leaders had to delay the telephone call confirming that the summit would go ahead. Today's communique will focus on a Dayton-style conference

Duke of Atholi's heir disclaims title

Britain's only bachelor duke died, leaving Blair Castle and a 70,000-acre Highland estate to a charitable trust, and his title to a third cousin living in South Africa who does not want it. The 10th Duke of Atholl was 64 and had been in hospital in Perth

Solicitor shot dead

A British solicitor was killed in crossfire during a Russian mafia killing at a five-star hotel in St Petersburg. The gunmen's intended target, a local business-man, was wounded Page 1

Schools rethink

Labour called for a drastic overhaul of comprehensive education so that bright pupils would be encouraged to forge ahead and the less able would be given extra

MP sues for libel

George Howarth, Labour MP for Knowsley North, sued The Guardian over an article which he says accused him of being a "boorish, foul-mouthed and uncivilised drunkard" Page 3

Our Mother

Ruth Ford, granddaughter of the Great Zeno, the music hall star, has been chosen to play the part of God in the York cycle of mys-Rail relief

A £650 million rail project to qua-

druple the number of direct train services through central London was appoved, 15 years after it was first proposed Page 5

Piggy pong

Two sets of feuding neighbours from Tynemouth clashed in court over the powerful smell exuded by Flossy, a 16 stone Vietnamese pot-bellied pigPage 5

Casinos on the cards

Thirteen sites for casinos were earmarked in government proposals to sweep away many of the restrictions on gambling in Britain. American-style resort casinos have been ruled out Page 7

Holy hits

Graham Kendrick has got six songs in the latest "Top 25" of hymn and worship song use, including the No I. Shine Jesus Shine. He gives much of his royalties to his church Page 10

srael alarm Israel's chief of staff said more

Islamic suicide bombs were expected. A supposed car accident on Monday in which one Israeli was killed and 23 wounded was an Arab terror attackPage 11

Tactful hint

European leaders were warned by the Brussels Commission to avoid needling Asian sensitivities over human rights when they gather in Bangkok...... Page 13

Cuba challenge

President Clinton is the first American leader to challenge the Cuban-Americans urging total isolation of their homeland until Fidel Castro falls...... Pages 14. 19 Shooting for votes

Pat Buchanan blew into Tombstone and took over the OK Corral for the strangest stunt in his campaign for the Republican nomination.....

Platform one for the train to Mars

A 1973 British Railways Board patent for a space vehicle has. has been found at the Patent Office in Newport. The spaceship was invented by Charles Osmond Frederick, who worked for BR in Derby. It was powered by thermonuclear fusion — which would have exposed high-speed commuters to distant parts of the solar system to lethal amounts of radiation...



Burnt-out cars on the motorway between Lifle and Ghent after a pile-up in fog which killed at least 14 people and injured 50

BUSINESS

Trafalgar House: Kvaerner, the Norwegian engineering and shipyards group, said it was in talks to buy Trafalgar House, the Cumard shipping and John engineering conglomerate..

Barciaya: The bank has taken advantage of the 4 per cent fall in its share price to buy in £300 million of its own shares....

Budgle the Helicopter: The cartoon character created by the Duchess of York helped Sleepy Kids, the marketing company, to record full-year profits of El million Page 25 Markets: The FT-SE 100 index rose

11.7 points to close at 3715.9. Sterling's trade-weighted index rose from \$3.1 to \$3.2 after a fall from \$1.5398 to \$1.5389 but a rise from DM2.2284 to DM2.2360....Page 28

SPORT Cricket: Australia beat India by 16 runs in the best game so far of the

World Cup. The richness of performance and variety of skills made it a one-day classic..... Page 48

Footbalt: Ian Rush is to leave Liverpool at the end of the season on a free transfer after 15 years, interrupted only by an unhappy 12 months in Italy...... Page 48

Rugby league: The Super League in Australia has been served a temporary injunction and will not kick off as scheduled on Friday. The start of the ARL season is also in __ Page 48

Rugby union: Despite his tyranni-cal image Jim Telfer has served the Scottish game admirably in a variety of roles for the best part of 30 . Page 43

General: England and Wales will

have a largely dry day with a good deal of sunstrine once overnight mist and fog patiches have cleared. The far

southwest of England is likely to have a more cloudy start but will brighten up with surmy spells developing.

Northern Scotland will become

increasingly cloudy with outbreaks of ran. The rest of Scotland and Northern Ireland will be dry and surny. Later in the day, however, the

cloud in the north will extend to central

☐ London, SE England, E Anglia, Central S England, E Midlands, E England, W Midlands, Channel Isles, S Wales, N Wales, NW England, Lake District, Isle of Man, Central N, NE England, Borders, Edinburgh & Dundee, SW Scot-

Why Nurm? "Trevor Nuna has nothing to prove," Benedict Nightingale writes. "Would he have the drive to be the National Theatre's boss, 24 hours a day?"......Page 36

Vanessa in Texas: The Redgraves, Vanessa and Corin, have caused a stir in Houston with two characteristically trenchant Shakespeare ___Page 36 stagings.

Robbins caged: Birmingham Royal Ballet has persuaded the veteran American choreographer Jerome Robbins to release his New York City Ballet work The Cage for Brit-

Lessons for Fenlos: When it comes to rebuilding burnt-down opera houses. Venice could learn from Barcelona's experience with the Page 37 Lious Theatre

IN THE TIMES

NEW FILMS

■ HOWZAT?

CONDENSE DE LA COMPANION DE

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ARCEBE BRETAIN YESTERDAY

Victoria Abril and

Alain Chabat (left) in

Gazon Maudit; Ralph

Win an eight-day trip

— to the World Cup

cricket final in Lahore

land, Glasgow, N tretand: dry and sunny after overnight mist and fog have cleared. Winds variable, mainly northeasterly, light: Max 8C (46F).

SW England: rather cloudy in the morning but brightening up with sunny spells. Wind east moderate or

Argylt dry, bright start but becoming more cloudy later. Wind southwest moderate. Max 5C (41F).

☐ Morey Firth, ME Scotland, NW Scotland, Orkney, Shetland: mostly cloudy with outbreeks of rain. Wind southwest moderate or fresh.

Outlooic mainly dry and surmy but cloudy in east with outbreaks of rain.

on, Central Highlands

for two — worth £6,000

Fiennes in Strange Days

Family ties: To have a child and to

feel that you may not live long enough to look after her is a terrifying prospect, says Nigella The man for Today: Magnus Link-

later defends Peter Hobday and proposes that Welsh iconoclast John Humphrys be thrown overboard instead

Flattering figures: Iain R. Webb on the autumn/winter collection from Jasper Conran, the increasingly low-profile designer Page 16

Star lobby: The Campaign for Quality Television is to be relaunched to safeguard standards into the 21st century...... Page 23

Design flaw: Sir Terence Conran labelled new British homes "tacky

boxes", igniting a debate... Page 34 The Europol computer in The

Hague sees everything knows everything and stores everything about criminals and about people who might become suspects. But should it prepare such intimate dossiers? Anybody who values Europol has to ensure it proceeds properly - both with its practical work and in terms of democratic control — Süddeutsche Zeitung

Preview: Sir David Frost investigates the paranormal. Beyond Belief (ITV, 8.30pm). Review: Lynne Truss finds top cops afflicted with "." sociology soundbites......Page 47

Talks and terrorists

High hopes are invested in today's talks. John Major and John Bruton have worked strenuously to bring peace closer. But whatever Sinn Fein's words, the IRA has shown that Irish republicans are happier bombing than talking Page 19

Tricks or treaties

Alone among European countries. Britain's Parliament has no right to approve the treaties entered into by the Government under the Crown Prerogatives

Big brother Fidel

After this week's murders in the Carribean, Europeans should understand why Washington still sees Cuba as a pariah Page 19

PETER STOTHARD

Thomas Massa Alsager, who died 150 years ago this year, was one of those 19th-century newspaper figures whose versatility puts his modern successors to shame and midwife to John Keats's sonnet On First Looking into Chapman's Homer

SIMON JENKINS

Mr Major must rely on a handful of publicity-hungry dissidents and a regional faction with a sectional agenda of their own. This is desperate stuff, Richard III before Bosworth with a most unreliable Stanley... PETER RIDDELL

The choice of electoral systems in Northern Ireland is crucial to the balance in the forum and the allparty talks SIMON BARNES

The laboratory of sport has come up with another of its macabre experiments. After the weekend we will all know more about leadership than we did before Page 42

Pat Smythe, showjumper: The Duke of Athol!

Freedom of Information Act; Sea Empress disaster, Ulster, Prisons Ombudanan .. .Page 19

Sunny

Sunny

Cloudy

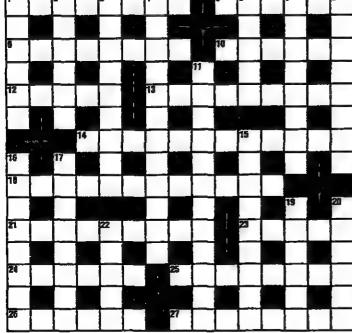
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Rein

Overcast

Sunny shower

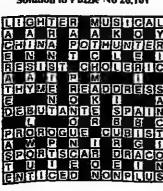
THE TIMES CROSSWORD NO 20,102



ACROSS

- 1 Jack affected enthusiasm for meet-
- 5 King with an elite group of men
- serving the state (6). 9 Try a tape out for afternoon entertainment (3.5).
- 10 Bareback rider shows spirit eager to make a cemeback (b).
- 12 Competent to protect English tree
- 13 Bacon, possibly, food for outlaw 14 Building work in the Arctic di-
- verted river (12). 18 Wreck one hymn with faults in the
- instrument (6.6). 21 Poorly out show is not popular (9). 23 Finger pages at back of book sometimes (5).

Solution to Puzzle No 20,101



- 24 Ornamental quat sw lover returned (6).
- 25 Primate cats little when abroad resulting in hunger (8)
- 26 Army advanced, showing skill (6). 27 He will be given books in set (4-4).

- 1 Thangs thrown out of planes above
- 2 Stingy monarch? Not so far! (6). 3 Sort of course may lead here (2.1.6)
- 4 Draught beer may be free from danger (3,2,3,4). 6 Affair with a man like Othelin
- reported (5). 7 Incentive from university to inhabit inferior housing it's put up
- 8 Shanty was first restrained (8). 11 I let pope tell about supernatural
- beings (6,b). 15 Red stuff or black rock found
- 16 Bold, rash king thrown out (8). 17 Drink that makes you grow fast

round ridge (9).

(8). 19 Inform counsel (b).

22 In the right, I fail to rise [3.2).

- 20 Former church given paint externally becomes bar (6).
 - Times Two Crossword, page 48

TIMES WEATHERCALL

procentaris o essan Nertolk Sulfalk Cartille Whosi Mid & Sth Glam & Shops Hervids & Wise Central Midlands East Midlands Lines & Humberside

Gaynedd & Chwyd N W England W & S Yorks & Coles N E England Cumbro & Lake Dolin S W Scriband W Gentral Scotland E Sin S File Lotant & F E Central Scotland Grampian & E highlands It W Scotland Castries - Official & Stational Numbers - Official & Stational Numbers - Official & Stational

AA HOADWATCH

HOURS OF DARKNESS

Pull Moon March 5
London 5-28 am to 6-49 am
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Sinstol 5-48 am to 7-36 am
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Marchaetar 5-43 am to 6-59 am
Parasance 6-07 pm to 7-57 am

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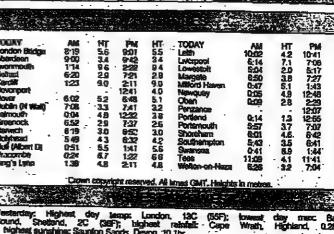
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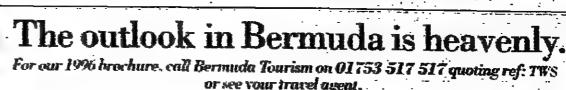
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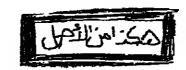
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Section States





Is Trevor Nunn the man to run the National Theatre?



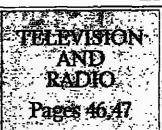
HOMES 34

Sir Terence has designs on British housing



SPORT 42-48

Scotland coach sets his sights beyond England





BUSINESS EDITOR Lindsay Cook

WEDNESDAY FEBRUARY 28 1996

N&P still to settle with chief who left 18 months ago



O'Brien: driving force

By PATRICIA TEHAN

NATIONAL & Provincial Building Society will admit next week that it has been unable to reach a settlement with David O'Brien, the chief executive who was deposed 18 months ago.

In a transfer document, to be sent out on Monday to members ahead of their vote on the proposed £1.35 billion acquisition of the society by Abbey National, N&P will say that negotia-tions with Mr O'Brien have not yet been concluded. At the time of his departure, industry stimates put the size of his compensation payment at up to £600,000.

The document will also outline earlier plans by N&P to merge with the Leeds Permanent Building Society and convert to bank status. Mr proposed merger in 1993. The plans came to nothing and it was said at the time that the Leeds could not come to terms with N&P's

Mr O'Brien left abruptly on September 28, 1994, with no reason being given for his departure. The society said he resigned after being told that the board wanted to replace him with Alastair Lyons, then finance director. According to the society's annual report, Mr O'Brien received £324,000 in salary and bonuses in the previous year. Given the suddenness of his departure and his two-year contract, speculation at the time was that he would receive the biggest pay-off in society history.

agreed acquisition by Abbey, after earlier

rejecting approaches. Mr Lyons had been in talks with his opposite number at the Nationwide, and the two societies had planned to merge and seek a stock market flotation. Abbey's approach forced N&P to evaluate other options. Its transfer document will also list the names of the five banks and building societies with which it held talks before agreeing to the Abbey offer.

Abbey is top of the list, but the other parties named will be the Nationwide, the Woolwich Building Society, Alliance & Leicester Building Society, and Cheltenham & Gloucester which is owned by Lloyds TSB.

as yet no agreement has been reached". After his departure, records at the Building

the amount of any payment that may be due to him. If and when this is concluded, if there is

anything that we need to say, we will do so. But

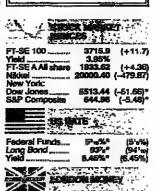
Societies Commission, the industry's watchdog, showed that Mr O'Brien owed the society almost £460,000. He had two mortgages, one for £199,000 and the other for £258,000 and was likely to have been paying a special low rate of interest on part of the loans. BSC records showed that at the start of 1992 he had three mortgages totalling over £1 million.

His departure focused attention on links

company chaired by him. Mr O'Brien could not be com

between N&P and Sherwood Computing, a

BUSINESS TODAY.



Judge sets new date in pension dispute

BY ROBERT MILLIO

A JUDGE has set a tough new timetable for many of the UK's leading life offices, including the Prudential. Norwich Union and Allied Dunbar. to settle potential cases of personal pensions mis-selling.

Judge Raymond Jack, QC, sitting at the Bristol Mercan-tile Court, has laid down that the companies alleged to have mis-sold pensions to members of the Royal College of Nurs-ing and the GMB general union must be ready for the cases to go to trial by the end of this year. Last month, he ruled that the union members were entitled to seek compensation through the courts rather than be bound by the industry-wide personal pensions mis-selling review set up by the Securities and Invest-

ments Board (SIB). The compensation bill for reinstating nurses, miners, teachers, police officers and public-sector workers who were wrongly advised to leave generous occupational schemes, or not to join in the first place, will account for a considerable proportion of the total compensation and costs bill, which could top £4 billion.

Other companies involved in the Bristol court case include Legal & General, Commercial and Guardian. Philip Ryley. head of the pensions unit at Ringrose Wharton, the law firm acting for the unions, said alleged mis-selling range tween £15,000 and £100,000. He added: "We are very pleased that the timetable set by the judge may prove to be a shorter time span than that set City Diary, page 29 by the City regulators."

Kvaerner set to launch bid for Trafalgar

THE City expects an £840 takeover bid for Trafalgar House after Kvaerner, the Norwegian shipbuilder and engineer revealed yesterday it had made an approach to the alling UK engineering and

construction giant. Kvaerner, owner of the Govan shipyard on the Clyde, Trafalgar, which made losses ties". Trainigar House said later that it was expecting to offer later this week and would consider the merits of ..

the deal at that point. company at £722 million. Anapredicted that Kvacmer would need to pitch a deal at between 50p and 55p a share. A 55p bid would value Trafal-

the cartoon character creat-

ed by the Duchess of York,

helped the marketing com-

pany Sleepy Kids to soar 86

per cent to record full year

Sleepy Kids said that Bud-

gie has now been sold to 70

countries and has 135 mer-

chandising deals in opera-

tion throughout the world.

The company recently agreed a \$1.3 million deal

for television rights with Fox Children's Network in

America. But the Duchess

sold her rights to profits

from the company's activi-

ties last month to an Ameri-

can investment group to ease her financial difficul-

The company licenses two

Pet Shop and Potsworth &

Co. In a second royal link-up. Sleepy Kids also mar-

kets merchandise for the

Turnover in the year to

Prince's Trust

profits of £1 million.

gar's ordinary shares at £592 million and its 450 million

Kvacrner has indicated it is unlikely to make a hostile bid as any deal would need the support of Trafalgar House's principal shareholder, House's kong Land, which holds a 26 per cent stake. Kvaerner could also face difficulties as its own market capitalisation is only around ESSI million.

The City has not ruled out a partial offer by Kvacrner for a stake in Translatar Flouse as Hongkong Land is understood to be willing to sell, in

spite of having reaffirmed its long-term commitment to Trafalgar as recently as December. Yesterday Hongkong Land said it would be guided by the board of Trafalgar on the merits of any offer. Hongkong Land, which is

produce a new cartoon se-

ries with the Toronto-based

Martin Powell, the chair-

man, restated the company's

intention to move to a full

Stock Exchange listing at a

suitable moment.Shares in

the company, which is cur-

BY ALASDAIR MURRAY

Profits take off at **Budgie company** BUDGIE the Helicopter, December 31 increased by 57 per cent to £1.76 million and the company declared its first ever dividend of 0.1p. Sleepy Kids added that it had lined up a deal to

would also be uncertain.

rently quoted on the Unlisted Securities Market, rose 3p to 45p. The dividend is payable on May 13. A third series of Transylsioned by Carlton last year, while Potsworth & Co was re aquired by the BBC for a second licence term.

Trafalgar has launched a The Prince's Trust has major restructuring proalso launched a major new campaign entitled "Mask 96", which will market a gramme to help to stem the osses. It only confirmed the series of painted masks to help raise funds for the £170 million disposal of Ideal Homes to Persimmon yesterday morning.

family, is estimated to have invested around £300 million in Trafalgar House since it first bought into the company at 40p a share in 1992. The company also helped to under-write two further rights issues at 100p and 60p and any deal is likely to leave the company bearing losses of more than

This is Kværner's second shot at a UK construction business after it failed in a £360 million takeover bid for Amec late last year. Kvaerner eye over Trafalgar when rewing its strategic options at

Kvaerner still holds a 23 per cent stake in Amec and shares in that company fell back 5p to 95p on market fears that Kvaerner would dump the stake. However, Kvaerner insure to dispose of the stake.

Kvaerner's main interests in Trafalgar House are likely to he its engineering and con-struction subsidiaries, John Brown and Davy Corporation. The company is keen to get a foothold in the UK to provide better access to offshore construction projects in the North Sea, and to develop a more globally based busi as capable of competing with its American rivals. The company could also benefit from substantial tax write-offs as a result of Trafalgar's recent heavy losses.

But a successful takeover would throw the future of the loss-making Cunard cruise line into doubt. Kværner is likely to want to dispose of the subsidiary as soon as possible. The future of Trafaigar's commercial property division

Trafalgar acquired a reputation as an acquisitive con-glomerate in the 1970s but was recast as an engineering and construction giant in the 1980s. A series of disastrous losses in the early 1990s led to Hongkong Land pouncing in 1992 after the share price dropped to just 40p.



sisted it was not under pres- Simon Keswick, left, a major stakeholder in Trafalgar through Hongkong Land, with Nigel Rich, the chief executive

Names to receive debt notification

By SARAH BAGNALL

LLOYD'S OF LONDON is to send out letters next Friday to 32,000 names detailing how much they will have to pay to leave the The so-called "indicative"

statements will be the first

idea names have of whether Lloyd's deems them to be in debt, in credit or bankrupt. However, the detailed statements are only preliminary calculations and will differ from final statements due out in July. According to sources close to Lloyd's, for the vast majority of names this difference will not exceed £15,000. For some names, however, this will be academic as they are bankrupt beyond salvation.

The statements will break down a name's bill into constituent parts, such as the litigation award, personal stop-loss recovery and allocations under each of the four tranches of the E2 billion debt write-off segment. Final hurdle, page 29

Barclays buys back £300m of shares

By Patricia Tehan, banking correspondent

BARCLAYS BANK has taken advantage of the 4 per cent fall in its share price since last Friday with a £300 million share buyback aimed at using surplus capital and enhancing earnings for shareholders. The size and timing of the

move surprised some in the City, although Barclays had been widely expected to repurchase some of its shares this week. It bought 40 million shares at 765p, a price that compares with Friday's close of 794p. This is the second repurchase, after last August's £180 million buyback. Martin Taylor, chief execu-tive, said the bank had indicat-

ed its intention to buy back capital, and "there was no reason not to get on with it". The bank announced a 12 per cent increase in pre-tax profits to £2.08 billion in 1995 after a 34 per cent reduction in bad debt provisions to £396 million. It has increased its dividend 24 per cent to 26p,

with the final payment of 16.50

due on May 2. However,

Andrew Buxton, chairman, dampened speculation that Barclays would join its peers interested in buying a life insurance mutual or a building society, saying the present banking acquisition market is

Profits from UK banking services were up from £1.26 billion to EL27 billion, with increased net interest income and lower provisions offsetting a 9 per cent rise in costs.

Taylor: managing capital

The bank said half the costs reflected investment to improve efficiencies and custom-Barclays de Zoete Wedd

reported an 18 per cent rise in profits to £286 million despite a 5 per cent rise in costs due to investment in people and systems. BZW completed the £275 million acquisition of Wells Fargo Nikko in December. taking its funds under management to £206 billion.

Losses in European retail banking increased from £8 million to £31 million after an increase in bad debt provisions from £33 million to £46 million. Other international and private banking profits fell from £241 million to £200 million after the sale of some of its businesses. Bardays Financial Services.

the insurance and retail broking arm, made profits of £148 million (£123 million). Corporate and institutional banking services profits rose £108 million to £169 million.

Giotto, Brunelleschi, Bramante, Donatello, Raffaello, Leonardo, Botticelli, Masaccio, Mantegna, Michelangelo. In other words: welcome to Florence.

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BUSINESS ROUNDUR

Nuclear wind-down

fund to be launched

THE Government yesterday moved quickly to implement recommendations on the nuclear industry when it announced that a special fund to cover nuclear decommission-

ing costs will be set up from March 31 and will come into

effect on privatisation, planned for the summer. Last week the Commons' all-party Trade and Industry Select Commit-

tee cast doubt on privatisation of the industry when it urged

Managers plan for Fokker survival

INDUSTRIAL CORRESPONDENT

MANAGERS at Fokker. the bankrupt Dutch aircraft manufacturer. Unveiled their own rescue package yesterday after the Dutch Government announced it was providing an extension of its emergency credit for a further fortnight. Under the plan, a

slimmed-down Fokker would sell most of its output of 45 aircraft a year to a state-backed finance company that would lease them to airlines. Managers say the scheme would allow aircraft prices to be cut by up to 25 per cent. ultimately providing net profits of 150 million guilders (£60 million) on sales of 2.3 billion guilders (£920 million). But thousands more jobs would be lost from Fokker's remaining workforce of 6,600.

The Dutch government appears to hope that a sale to Samsung Aerospace of Korea can still be achieved. Bombardier, the Canadian planemaker that supplies wings for Fokker jets from Its Short Brothers plant in Belfast, said that it would not make an offer. But Bombardier has a record of brinkmanship when negotiating the takeover of ailing state planemakers.

An extra 15 million guil-ders (£6 million) will be made available by the Dutch government while talks continue with Samsung. A Fokker spokesman said that the Korean company "has a

good plan". Fokker's F100 and F70 jets, seating from 80 to 110 passengers, are the chief rivals to the Avro RJ range built by British Aerospace. British components make up more than half their value, including wings from Short Brothers, engines from Rolls-Royce and landing gear from TI.

TOURIST RATES

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GA leads rise in car premiums as winter accidents increase

MOTORISTS face rises in car insurance this year because of an increase in accidents during the recent cold snap, insurers said yesterday General Accident, which has about 5 per cent of the personal motor market and writes 700,000 policies annually, said that its premiums would rise by about 4 per cent in April.

Other insurers confirmed that personal motor rates. which have been falling over the past couple of years and which dropped by an average of 5 per cent last year, were set

Direct Line, the largest motor insurer, Royal Insurance, and Guardian Royal Exchange all said that prices would either stop falling or rise slightly for some drivers in 1996. A spokeswoman for the

Association of British Insurers said: "By far the greatest number of claims are for accidents, not car crime, and claims are starting to rise again, particularly after the most recent winter storms "It is generally accepted that

motor rates have reached their lowest point, although underwriting has become so specific that any rises will be assessed on an individual basis."

General Accident, which yesterday reported operating pre-tax profit of £436 million for the year to 31 December (1994: E434 million), said that drivers in provincial towns had enjoyed the greatest reductions in premiums and would therefore be in line now for a rise.

Worldwide, General Accident's underwriting deficit in-



Bob Scott is seeking European acquisitions for General Accident, after its takeover of Provident Mutual

creased in the fourth quarter of the year to £66 million (1994: £25 million loss), after million in the UK in the latter part of December. The deficit for the full year was up from £71 million to £130 million, mainly because of weather

than £100 million in the 12 months, from £55 million. UK underwriting profit fell to £92 million (£200 million).

Under new accounting rules, total pre-tax profits, which include realised investment gains of £123 million (1994: £70 million) amounted to 5559 million, against £504 million for the previous year. The total dividend is 31p (1994:

Bob Scott, chief executive, said that the group was seeking life and general insurance acquisiparticularly Germany, France,

He was looking to repeat the success of the group's purchase of Provident Mutual, the pension provider, and, in spite of efforts to build up operations in Germany organically, believed that acquisition was the way forward.

Tempus, page 28

CinMan HTV says suitors have pensions chief quits

BY CHRISTINE BUCKLEY

BRITISH COAL'S pension schemes, the sale of which was derailed by a trustees' rebellion, were in fresh turmoil yesterday with the departure the chief executive of CinMan - the management agency for the £17 billion worth of funds.

Barry Southcott is to leave the fund management operation on April 12 after just over 212 years at the head of the scheme. Philip Hutchinson, British Coal's secretary and director of legal affairs, has been appointed chairman of CinMan, which is to be sold subject to agreement of trustees who earlier this month quashed an attempt to sell the business to Friends Provident. The trustees are thought to favour a financial backer that would take a more hands-off

approach than Friends Provient, which is thought to have offered £70 million to manage the funds. They backed Sal Oppenheim, a private Ger-man bank, which is believed to have offered under £18

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yet to make approach

considered a prime takeover candidate as the industry consolidates, said it had not been approached by potential purchasers even though it is not vigorously guarding its

Christopher Rowlands, the chief executive, said that HTV would not automatically reject a takeover or merger proposal and that the new Broadcasting Bill, which will lift most of the restrictions on cross-media ownership, could present it with opportunities.

"We see enormous benefits from cross-media deals and alliances," he said HTV's franchise covers the

West of England and Wales. Analysts think that Carlton Communications and MAI. once its proposed merger with United News & Media is completed, would be HTV's most likely purchasers.

The company reported pre-tax profits of \$12.1 million in the year to December 31, up 66 per cent, on lumover of \$135 million, up 10.6 per cent.

HTV, the ITV company that is Earnings per share were 10.5p which encompasses all of against 6.3p. The final divi-dend of 2.5p will make the HTV's non-broadcasting ac-tivities, produces and distribtotal dividend 3.75p, an in-

across-the-board margins and stronger operating profits from its new Harvest Entertainment division were behind the better results. Harvest,

programmes, usually international partners. its profit margin went from 11 per cent to 15 per cent.

Tempus, page 28



Domestic gas fight delayed

BY CHRISTINE BUCKLEY

COMPETITION in domestic gas supply for the south west of England is to be delayed after TransCo. British Gas's pipeline operation, lobbied for

The move to delay by four weeks the introduction of competition to the 500,000 households in the test area was criticised by rivals of British Gas who say they are ready to start supplying gas by April-1
— the original date. TransCo had originally wanted a delay until June to test fully its

Competition in supply for customers in the south west which covers Cornwall, Devon and Somerset - has already seen rival suppliers offering price packages which undercut those available from British Gas by 25 per cent. Next year the test area broadens to encompass Avon, Dorset, East and West Sussex and Kent, giving the choice of supplier to 2 million more

Full competition is due in

that any purchaser—either through a flotation or via a trade sale—should accept responsibility for the industry's extensive liabilities. The committee also called on the Government to set up the planned segregated fund as quickly as possible. The fund will receive from Nuclear Electric and Scottish Nuclear a "large" initial lump sum — thought likely to be some hundreds of millions of pounds — followed by much

Apple aims to survive

smaller quarterly payments.

GILBERT AMELIO, who took over as head of Apple Computer Inc three weeks ago, said yesterday that the troubled company's main goal was survival and that every aspect of the business was open to review. He said that Apple will have to simplify its structure and make sure that it retains its millions of loyal customers. Apple must improve the time it takes to get products to market, build on key markets such as publishing and focus more on users' needs, Mr Amelio said. Apple, which has short-term loans due in March and April, recently suspended its dividend.

Union back in black

GEORGE BLUNDEN, chief executive of Union, the financial services group, said he was feeling in buoyant mood yesterday after revealing that the company returned to the black with profits of £1.4 million in 1995. It had incurred a £3.5 million loss in 1994. Half the profit came from the release of provisions. Despite the improvement in its fortunes, the company is holding its dividend at 3p for the year, with the final payment of 1.5p due on April 26. The dividend has been held at this level since 1993, when Union returned to making

Pensions fight resumes

CAMPAIGNERS for a fairer pension deal for divorced wives resume their fight tomorrow in the House of Lords, in the face of Government opposition. Baroness Hollis of Heigham. Labour's Social Security Spokesman in the Lords, will move an amendment to the Family Law Bill, requiring pensions to be split when couples divorce. Pension splitting at divorce is seen as a cheaper, fairer and simpler way of dividing the husband's pension, than a sharing out at retirement, as detailed in the Pensions Act 1995. The arrangement has the support of matrimonial lawyers and the pensions industry.

Irish home loans rise

NEW martgage lending helped to push up the pre-tax profits of Irish Permanent by more than 20 per cent, to Ir£42.4 million, in the 12 months to December 31. The bank said that, in a very competitive market, its mortgage lending had increased by 19 per cent, to Ir £406 million. last year. Irish Progressive, the life assurance company. contributed earnings of Ir£9.5 million from the sales of life and pensions products. Total assets grew by 12 per cent, to Ir£4 billion, and the total net dividend has been increased by Ir1.5p to Ir10.5p per share.

New chief at Boeing

BOEING, the world's largest aircraft maker, has appointed Philip Condit. its president, as chief executive. He will replace Frank Shrontz, the chairman, who has also held the post. The reshuffle comes as Boeing mounts a huge cost-cutting drive to reinforce the advantage over Airbus Industrie, its European arch-rival, provided by the weakness of the US dollar. The shift in boardroom influence may also offer a chance for Boeing to revive merger discussions with McDonnell Douglas, its biggest American rival in civil jets, and on many military projects.

German yard reprieved

BREMER VULKAN, Germany's biggest shipbuilder, was yesterday given a two-month stay of execution. The company's 30 creditor banks have agreed to keep it affoat for a short period while drastic restructuring plans are worked out. Despite the small glimmer of hope, the workforce was yesterday in a militant mood and refused to allow Günter Records, the Economics Minister, into the yards. The 22,000 workers — many of whom will be sacked according to preliminary restructuring plans - blame the Government for the financial crisis.

Visa spending leaps

THE French are Europe's greatest Visa card enthusiasts, using their plastic, on average, 10.4 times a month. The British, at four times a month, are less keen. The laggards in the Visa usage league are the Germans (I.7 times) and Italians (I.4 times). However, total Visa card spending in Europe in 1995 rose 22 per cent to \$269 billion. This was the largest rise for three years, according to figures published yesterday by Visa International, the consumer payment system business. Visa spending in Britain rose 17 per cent last year to £56.8 billion: the number of cards in circulation was up 9 per cent at 31.5 million.

Jury hears dispute over 'Nadir visits'

THE former personal assistant to a London stockbroker was lying when she said that Asil Nadir visited her offices. the Central Criminal Court was told yesterday. Marilyn Nash, former director of administration for the firm of A J Bekhor, insisted that she was telling the truth, in her

ciaims about the former chairman of Polly Peck International (PPI). Mrs Nash, giving evidence

in the trial of Elizabeth Forsyth, told the jury of four or five visits by Mr Nadir, who would enter the building using a rear staircase. She said there was never any secret about the visits. Geoffrey Robertson. QC. statement in which Mrs Nash's former employer denies ever meeting Mr Nadir. and claims that there were no back stairs at A J Bekhor. Mrs Nash insisted that there was a stairwell, leading to a smaller office adjacent to the main building. She would greet Mr Nadir at the back door.

Nash that she had lied about Mr Nadir's visits, and had done so to support lies about Mrs Forsyth's supposed contact with her former employer. Mrs Nash denied lying.

Mrs Forsyth denies two counts of handling nearly £400.000 in funds allegedly stolen by Mr Nadir from PPI.

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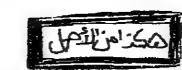


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☐ Kvaerner puts down a marker ☐ Chancellor eyes investors' profits ☐ How we can all join the EMU club

□ BASED on a normal demographic spread, the 330 rich Americans who had their world cruise aboard the liner Sagaford comprehensively ruined should have had 33 lawyers among them keen to help their shipmates in their time of need. Now, therefore looks like an expellent therefore, looks like an excellent time for the owners of the ship. Britain's own Trafalgar House,

to be looking for a buyer.

The Sagafford, out of Fort
Landerdale, Fla., was stranded in the shark and pirate infested South China Sea after a fire knocked out its main power systems. Some passengers may have gone for hours without a dry Martini, and the aerobics classes were certainly hadly dis-rupted. Damage claims for the accompanying mental anguish are estimated at £720 million. coincidentally equal to Trafal-gar's market capitalisation.

A committee to some

a chan back in bu

Post Stample

It is not yet clear whether Kvaerner, which would like to buy Trafalgar House, has appreciated the size of that contingent hability. But anyone prepared to bid for Amec, the battered contractor that inevaluable check The Norwegians insist on the

tractor that inexplicably shookoff the Norwegian embrace last year, must have nerves of steel.

The question, therefore, is how much of a loss on their investment the Keswick family that controls Hongkong Land are prepared to stomach. They must

hostile battle

curse the day they ever heard the name of Trafalgar House, after the Northern Electric drama and all those profit warnings; City estimates suggest that the average they paid for the shares was 85p, against a price for any offer now of 55p at best. One attraction to Kyaerner is

block if a deal cannot be struck.

the Kvaerner management probably lacks the bottle for another

said to be the tax benefits from a business that lost £321 million last year; a clearer one is the offshore engineering business that was Amer's main appeal too. The difficulty is that to ar, must have nerves of steel. recoup any tax advantage, you the Norwegians insist on the have to make a profit. The ed for the agreement of the Norwegians would also have to Trafalgar board. This is making sell off large chunks of Trafalgar.

something of a virtue out of a necessity. Not only is Hongkong Land's 26 per cent a substantial including the ropey old Cunard line whose hospitality all those American lawyers are now enjoying off the Philippines. The best bet must be a carve-

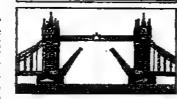
up between Kvaerner and the Keswicks, the latter departing with the boats along with a few bob to invest in them. Trafalgar shareholders, who must them-selves have been tempted to reach for their lawyers over the past year, should know that any deal, if it comes, will be quite shortly — but at not much above the current market price.

Tucking away that Tessa windfall?

☐ WE NOW have the first fragments of evidence to inform the great debate over whether British consumers will use various cash windfalls coming their way this year to save more or spend, spend, and spend. This is a far from sterile debate, because the Chancellor's forecast for growth

PENNINGTON

All aboard the good ship Trafalgar



power the economy forward. The building societies say that more than half of their cus-tomers who had invested in Tessa Mark One had reinvested in Tessa Mark Two within a month of their accounts matur-ing. This snap decision not to go shopping suggests that investors remain defensive, that confidence is fragile and that they are more likely to save than spend. If so, the Chancellor's optimism may be misplaced.

Much more may be reinvested in the months ahead when investors have had time to make

television conglomerate, said yester-day that it plans to split into two

companies. One of them, to be called Pathé, would hold the group's news-

paper and entertainment interests, including a 17 per cent stake in BSkyB,

Many investors, amply re-warded by the high interest rates on the first round of Tessas, will find today's low interest rates unattractive. Despite having to pay tax, they may judge that investing in equities, even in a market that many fear has eaked, has more potential.

But what if the societies' survey turns out to be a good proxy their Tessa earnings? Only around 50 per cent reinvestment would be astonishingly good news for the Government's optimistic forecast on consumer spending. Together with the fact that investors are only allowed to plough back the original capital but not the interest earned over the past five years, this should have the City worrying less about the Government falling short of its growth target and more about the danger of Lawson-type boom condinons.

which is 40 per cent owned by News International, owner of *The Times*, is in talks with CLT of Luxembourg

about launching a digital satellite

broadcasting service in continental

Talk Radio and France's Top Santé

magazine to a variety of TV stations in

Belgium, Germany, France and Lux-

CLT's interests range from Britain's

French conglomerate to demerge Pathé TV

guess at this stage is still that the bulk of the money will be saved, if not in Tessas, then elsewhere. by Demos that building society customers should at least give their merger bonuses to charity the only thing saving us from another old-fashioned British boom and bust cycle?

Maastricht, your flexible friend

☐ PATRICK FOLEY, chief economist at Lloyds Bank, reckons that most EU states might after all qualify as founders of a European currency when the sums are done in exactly two years' time. Seven or eight should pass muster, given "a degree of flexi-bility in interpretation" of the Maastricht convergence tests.

Anyone examining the treaty will indeed find that the "excessive deficit tests, at least, are highly flexible. They allow a budget deficit modestly above 3 per cent of gross domestic prod-uct provided it is "exceptional and temporary," and allow national debt of more than 60 per cent of GDP if "the ratio is

embourg. Neither CLT nor BSkyB would comment, although a deal is

Pathé will hold Pathé Television, a 20

per cent stake in Canalsatellite, 65 per

Libération, the French newspaper,

and the Pathe cinemas.

cent of Pathé Interactive, 12 per cent of

Chargeurs International will hold

the rest of the group, which includes

sufficiently diminishing and approaching the reference level

ai a satisfactory pace".

German internal propaganda. insisting criteria be met to the letter, should be seen in this paradoxical light. That letter is not strict. Member states can simply assume any test they muff is waived. This applies to Britain too, as Mr Foley shows. He says that only the UK, along with Germany and Luxembourg, will meet strict Maastricht numbers. Yet one sine qua non is that your currency has been a law-abiding member of the exchange-rate mechanism for two years — a test sterling cannot now meet.

Railway cutting

THE job losses now waiting on Platform Five will shortly be followed by a whole trainle ad more. South West Trains has announced the first round of redundancies by any privatised rail company. This injection of private sector rigour was, of course, the whole point in selling off the industry in the first place. The travelling public are to be reassured that the cuts will fall on cushy middle management jobs rather than the station staff. Believe that, and you may even believe the South West timetable.

the transportation and surface

Chargeurs said the demerger would

enable both companies to focus on

their business sectors and make it

easier for them to form partnerships.

It said that its preliminary loss for 1995

would be Fr575 million, which partly

reflects a writedown of Fr140 million

coatings companies.

Wimpey remains bullish despite £29m profits fall

WIMPEY, the construction group, maintained a bullish stance on the housing market yesterday despite reporting a slump in pre-tax profits for last year from £45.1 million to

The fall was in line with City had warned earlier this month that its pre-tax profits for the year to December 31 would be no less than £15 million when revealing the financial details. of its asset awan with Tarmac. which means that the group is now wholly involved in housebuilding.

The company, which is the UK leader in 2 to 3-bedroomed homes, sustained damage from lower margins, higher

and probably declining interincentive costs and flatness in est rates and steady economic growth in the UK, US and Australia provides us with the sound base from which we can move forward with confidence. The early results for January and February from all our businesses, including forecasts from McLean Homes, give us cautious optimism for the rest of the year." McLean Homes is the divi-

> More disposals are on the Tarmac. The company hopes to raise up to £100 million from further sales of non-core operations over the next two years. Wimpey, which has a gearing of 33 per cent after a goodwill payment to Tarmac, will also need to increase its

sion that Wimpey will take

from Tarmac and is primarily

involved in larger, 4-bedroom-plus houses. In McLean's likely results for last year, the

average selling price was ex-pected to be similar to that of 1994, with burnover in line

with that year's £485 million, it

The final dividend, payable on May 8, was set at 3.5p, which maintains the total at the 1994 level of 5.5p.

selling prices in its house-building operations last year. Operating profits fell from £46.2 million to £28.3 million and, while the average selling price increased from £59,200 to £62,500, this was because of a change in product mix. But it said that early sales and inquiries in the first few weeks of this year indicated a lift in interest, and that activity was

time buyer market again. Wimpey believes consumer. confidence is growing with lower interest rates contin-uing, and that this will translate into sales as the year progresses Joe Dwyer, chair-man, said: "Low inflation, low

beginning to stir in the first-

land bank over the medium

High hopes: Joe Dwyer, Wimpey Homes chairman

Newsprint costs hit Telegraph

THE TELEGRAPH, owner of The Daily Telegraph and its Sunday sister paper, has suf-fered a substantial fall in profits, but says the outlook is encouraging partly because of an easing in the price war among national dailies.

Stephen Grabmer, manag-ing director, said. The worst is over and things look reasonyear to December 31, on turnover up marginally, to £255 million. Operating prof-its were £15.4 million, against £20.1 million. Earnings per share were 17.3p (23.4p).

were skewed by a one-off gain of £7.5 million on the sale of a small stake in Carlton company's share in a C\$120 million (£56 million) charge taken by Southam, a Canadian newspaper publisher 10 per cent owned by The Telegraph.

> because the circulation war has The Daily Telegraph to rais He also said that newsprint prices, which rose by almost 50 per cent in 1995, appear to decline slightly this year. making a total 13p, is

Tessas worth £20.1 billion.

Operating pre-tax profit of £436m is despite a near

- doubling of severe weather losses to over £100m. UK underwriting profit of £92m is the second best ever achieved.
- Improving trend continues in the United States.
- Reduced underwriting deficit in Canada.
- Excellent new business production from UK life.
- Final dividend of 20.3p per share making a total of 31.0p per share for the year - an increase of 6.9%
- Net asset value up 51% to £3,380m, equivalent to 653p per share. Solvency margin 77%.

Bob Scott, Group Chief Executive, comments:

"We have maintained a record operating performance in 1995 and remain confident regarding prospects for 1996".

General Accident plc

General Accident plc, World Headquarters: Pitheavlis, Perth, Scotland PH2 0NH A copy of the full results are available on Internet: http://www.communicata.co.uk/ga

US West buys Continental **Cablevision**

US WEST is to buy Continental Cablevision, America's third largest cable operator. in a deal valued at more than \$10 billion. It will give US West access to a total of 13.9 million homes worktwide. Cablevision serves 4.2 mil-

Cablevision serves 4.2 million customers in America, clustered in five large markets

New England, California, Chicago, Michigan/Ohio and Florida. The enlarged group will serve nearly one of every three cable-TV households. US West will buy Continen-tal's stock for \$5.3 billion, and will assume its debt and other obligations of \$5.5 billion. US West, together with TCI, is a big shareholder in TeleWest Communications, one of the largest UK cable operators. It also owns 50 per cent of Mercury One-2-One, the mo-

ably good so far this year." Pre-tax profits fell 21 per cent, to £35.5 million, in the

Steep newsprint price rises and a circulation battle were behind the lower results, The

that billions of from matured Tax Exempt Special Savings Accounts (Tessas) would be released into the economy appear to have been dashed by the Building Societies Association (BSA).

A BSA survey, published yesterday, reveals that 360,000 Tessa savers re-invested £2.8 billion in second generation Tessas with the same society. The average capital sum in the new accounts was almost £8,000, compared with the 19,000 upper limit. The associ-

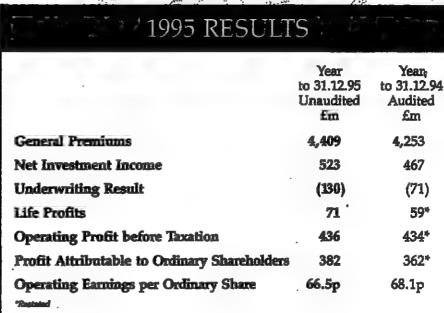
£1.4 billion was re-invested in: other investment accounts, again with the same society. Adrian Coles, director-general of the BSA, says "Money from maturing Tessa accounts is being re-invested in is not going into the

of January building society

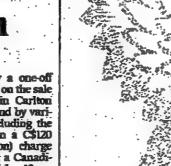
customers held 31 million

lie companies to put some of the proceeds allocated to free share bonuses towards com munity charitable purposes Author David Shutt said up to The findings will also dis-10 per cent of the bounty could be split between housingappoint City fund managers related charities, community who had hoped to attract a large slice of the £5.5 billion foundations, and charitable purposes. invested in 560,000 Tessas. The BSA adds that at the end

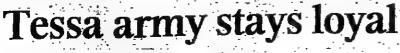








Mr Grabiner said that results should improve this year have peaked and may even The final dividend of 7.5p,





MICHAEL CLARK

City stirred by prospect of bid for ailing Trafalgar

THE stock market went back on bid alert last night after news that Kvaerner, the Swedish industrial group, wants to bid for ailing Trafalgar House. The statement from Kvaerner, which owns the Govan shipyard and last year failed to win control of Amec, the construction group, was accompanied by a jump in the Trafalgar share price of 34 p to 474 p as almost 27 million shares were traded.

Whispers in the Square Mile claimed Kvaerner was prepared to offer 55p for each of the ordinary shares and par (40p) for the cumulative preference shares, which would value the debt-laden Trafalgar at more than £500 million. Kvaerner said any deal

would have to be agreed. Talk of a bid for Trafalgar had been circulating for several weeks. Now City speculators want to know which way Hong Kong Land, with 26.1 per cent of Trafalgar, will move.

The news focused attention on other potential bid targets such as Allied Domeco, which added 4p to 524p.

BSkyB, the satellite broadcaster, was also the subject of an early flurry of speculative buying that saw the price touch 419p after shares of Chargeurs, its 17 per cent shareholder, were suspended

This was followed by wild talk that Chargeurs was planning to sell its stake to Sony. Japanese electronics group, which would then use it as a platform to bid for the rest of BSkyB. It later emerged that Chargeurs planned to split its entertainment and industrial operations into separate companies to be called Pathe and Chargeurs International. The stake in BSkyB will be owned by Pathe. BSkyB. which is 40 per cent owned by News International, publisher of The Times, finished 54p

The rest of the equity market put up an impressive performance in the face of sharp overnight falls on Wall Street. The FT-SE 100 index ciawed back an early fall to finish 11.7 up on the day at 3.7)5.9. But trading conditions remained thin, with a total turnover of 732 million shares.

Guinness put on 9p to 453p as UBS, the broker, took a more positive stance on the shares and took them off its sell list Last week Morgan Stanley told clients that it was a buyer of Guinness.

COMMODITY EXCHANGE



Michael Webber, chairman of Pifco, where pre-tax profits rose

ICI climbed tip to \$88p amid claims that ABN Amro Hoare Govett had upgraded its profit forecast and was talking the shares up to 950p. Barclays waited several hours after declaring record profits to announce it also plans to buy back up to 40 nilion shares, or 25 per cent

of the issued share capital, at

765p. The buyback will be

Standard Chartered, reporting today, firmed 2p to 509p. General Accident managed higher profits last year in spite of worse than expected bad-weather claims of £100 million. Pre-tax profits were 4 per cent ahead at £523 million.

ne shares rose 13p to 650p. HTV, the regional television broadcaster, retreated 3p to 387p as the company played

TLG, the lighting group, demerged from Thorn EMI in 1994, fell 5p to 145p after Cazenove and Kleinwort Benson, its joint brokers, cut their forecasts for this year by £2 million to £28 million. They blamed the downturn in Europe, in particular France and Germany. Last year TLG made £25 million.

carried out by BZW and Cazenove and will cost in the region of £310 million. The shares finished 4p down at 767p, having briefly been as

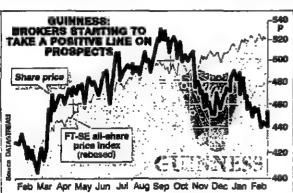
HSBC climbed 17p to £10.73 as brokers began upgrading their estimates for the current year in the wake of last year's impressive rise in profits. which were announced on

COMMODITIES

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down bid speculation. Louis Sherwood, the chairman, told brokers the company had received no formal approach. The denial coincided with fullyear figures showing pre-tax profits 66 per cent ahead at E[2] million.

There had been claims HTV would find itself on the receiving end of a bid from Michael Green's Carlton Communications, 5p easier at 406p. This



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followed a spate of bid activity
in the media sector that saw
United News & Media's pro-
nosed merger with MAI,
down 212p at 406p, and Gra-
nada. 3p firmer at 71lp. in-
creasing its stake in
Yorkshire-Tyne Tees, 11p
down at £10.21.

There were few surprises from George Wimpey. Brit-ain's biggest housebuilder. with pre-tax profits tumbling from £45.1 million to £15.6 million. Commenting on its Tarmac. Wimpey said the net cash outflow was likely to be in the region of £40 million. Wimpey slipped 2p to 134p and Tarmae ip to 119p.

The Telegraph, publisher of The Daily Telegraph and The Sunday Telegraph, fell lop to 463p after reporting a £9.5 million drop in profits to £35.5 million. Two rises in the cover price had help to offset a sharp rise in the newsprint costs.

Half-year figures from Pifes, the domestic appliances group, rose 4p to 208p after ifting pre-tax profits £170.000 £1.57 million. Michael Webber, the chairman, said the group planned to jaunch products during 1996.

First-time dealings in Freenages, the telephone directory services group, got under way on AIM following a placing and open offer by Collins Stewart, the broker, at 12p. The shares started life at 15½ p before ending the day at 15p, a premium of 3p.

☐ GILT-EDGED: Prices re-

covered from opening falls to end with modest gains after making the most of rallies among German bunds and US Treasury bonds. Traders said most attention was focused on today's auction of \$3 billion of Treasury 8 per cent 2021, which is expected to be well received. Brokers were not anticipating much in the way of short selling ahead of

In the futures pit, the March series of the long gilt closed seven ticks higher at £106²⁷32 as a total of 77,000 contracts per cent 2015 ros five ticks to £984, while at the shorter end Treasury 8 per cent 2000 was 116 better at £103332. ☐ New York: Shares on Wall

Street were sharply lower in volatile trading amid growing uncertainty over interest rates. At midday, the Dow Jones industrial average was down

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HISES!
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London Clubs 490p (+18p)
Scoha 579p (+21p)
Guinness 453p (+11p)
Reuters
Gen Accident 650p (+13p)
Charter 846p (+15p)
ICI 888p (+11p)
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Man Utd 263p (+8p)
Br Aerospace 875p (+10p)
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Acom Comp 224p (-17p)
Capita Group 315p (-16p)
Border TV 287p (-7p)

Closing Prices Page 30

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But optimism is, at the

MAJOR CHANGES

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Barclays' cash machine BARCLAYS E300 million share buyback a strong position to make a further repuryesterday could disappoint only those who had expected a grander, one-off gesture. The bank took advantage of the market's recent

> The message from Martin Taylor, chief executive, yesterday was that he is perfectly happy with Barclays' tier one capital ratio of 7.2 per cent. The ratio is a measure of a bank's capital strength - 5 per cent is about the minimum accepted for a large clearing bank, but Mr Taylor says he could live with it at 6 per cent. However, the bank is enjoying itscurrent capital strength. Yesterday's move will take the 7.2 per cent figure at the end of December down to 6.9 per cent, but Barclays is adding to its tier one ratio at a rate of nearly

0.1 per cent a month. This will put the bank in

insurer. The

reorganising Provident Mu-tual will be about £15 million

- equivalent to the profits it

will bring in this year. But

GA will be keen to sort out

Provident before making

Despite being at pains to

get out of unprofitable busi-

ness in France and Den-

mark, GA is now looking for

another acquisition.

negative view to act, buying in 40 million

chase after its interim results. The time window is tight, as it needs to be within a few weeks of the results. After last year's £180 million repurchase of 25 million shares taking the total to 4 per cent of issued share capital - Barclays appears to be setting a trend for the future of a series of smaller, regular repurchases. The benefits of the latest manoeuvre were not reflected in the share price, which ended the day lower at 767p. standing at a discount to the sector.

But Mr Taylor says banking is a long-term, not short-term, business, and that the capital management measures, increased investment in the businesses and restructuring will pay off in the long run. Negative sentiment will not go away overnight, though the shares will look a better bet as time passes.

UK market.

compatible general or life

insurers in western Europe.

sion into Europe, is the solution to a downturn in the

Shares, trading at a dis-

count to the net asset value of

653p, still look cheap, but

only if GA can restrain itself

from a hasty purchase across

General Accident

GENERAL ACCIDENT announced yesterday that it was raising its motor rates to continue writing profitable business - a marked contrast to rival Commercial Union, which has vowed to cut premiums to increase market share.

Declarations such as GA's are always well received by the City and are particularly welcome at a time when the insurance industry shows signs of a cyclical downturn. Rising claims and fierce competition mean 1996 will be a tough year for insurers. than many in its sector, but it needs to look at its underwriting strategy and keep tight control of claims costs.

After snapping up a bar-gain in the form of Provident Mutual, the company now wants to acquire another life

Wimpey

ONE could say it is a case of hope beyond hope to believe that the housing market is

moment, one of the foundation stones of Wimpey's business. It has to be. A company that plunges into house building in the current environment has to have either incredible foresight or sev-

Many looked on the recent asset swap with Tarmac and wondered just what Wimpey was getting out of it. That transaction, after approval by shareholders this week, will be completed on Friday.

now be wholly oriented to housebuilding, said it believed consumer confidence would improve with continued lower interest rates and that house price inflation would run at about 2-3 per cent in the second half of this

Despite such robust confi-

dence, and who knows it may prove well placed, Wimpey still has to find the cash in the long term to top up its land bank. Returns, if they prove forthcoming, will come in the immediate future as it sells houses. But in the long term Wimpey has rendered itself a hostage to economic fortune and the cyclical swings in the housing market without being able to counter with less volatile ventures.

INDIVIDUAL investors would be foolish to buy a stock on rumours that a takeover will earn them handsome returns. But HTV, the television franchise holder, is a different story. With Scottish and Yorkshire Tyne Tees -HTV, forms a trio of ITV. companies of any size that remain independent. The consensus in the City is that they will eventually get swept up in the consolidation craze. Carlton, the ITV company

MAI-United merger, is one of the lead candidates for HTV. If a miracle happens and HTV manages to hold out, the shares will inevitably drift down, but they are unlikely to plummet. HTV's effort to distance itself from the ITV network, thus making it less dependent on volatile ITV advertising income, is beginning to bear fruit. One

which didn't have the cour

age to bust up the proposed

new source of income is the 'rights" business, which creates and distributes programming with international partners. It also expects to save millions by renegotiating its licence fee and it app-

year for its licence, while Scottish Television, which managed to avoid a bidding war for the franchise, pays virtually nothing. Negotiations to cure the anomaly are to begin this year with the independent Television Commission. HTV shareholders should hang on.

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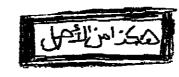
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Barclays man and boy

MARTIN TAYLOR, who

has been banking with Barclays since he was a boy, admits that before he became chief executive in January, 1994, "I was bombarded with circular letters". Seemingly oblivious to Taylor's rise to power and wealth at Courtailds Textiles, and to the savings and investment potential of such a customer, somebody at Barclays' Burnley branch kept on sending him monthly missives encouraging him to bor-row money so that he could apply for a mortgage and buy a new car as well. Finally, he says, "I was able to stop it by becoming chief executive". Taylor says no criticism is intended and adds the branch has never made a mistake

It's good for Bob

BT IS on a roll with its new E50 million television advertising campaign since pinning down comedian "big yin" Billy Councily, to appear along-side his cockney chum Bob Hoskins. Although Hoskins is in the third and final year of his contract with BT, he claims to be having fun with the latest pile of scripts sent by ad agency Abbott Mead Vickers. He boasts: "We've got it down to a fine art now, and we're just churning them out." His BT catchprase "It's good to talk" must ring true. According to Hoskins: "I'm never off my mobile."



Hosking still talking

Firm friends THERE was much net-

working in the Guildhall crypt last night where, at an official dinner, the Lord Mayors of London and Bratislava agreed they both have much to offer. British exports to Slovakia were \$84.2 million and its imports here were \$74.7 million as of last August: Shell and Tate & Lyle are. already big investors in a country hoping to become a fully-fledged part of an integrated Europe.

THE Lords Stevens and Hollick are obviously determined to make their United News/MAI merger as much fun as possible. An advert in The Stage reads: "Help! We desper-ately need bubbly, friendly and efficient bar/restaurant staff to work at Express Newspapers at Blackfriars 54.35 per

He's back

IF LONRHO ever thought Tiny Rowiand, now no longer a director, would ride off into the sunset never to be heard of again, they got it wrong. It's Lonrho's AGM today, at the Barbican, and Tiny tells me "I'll be there". Whether the man actually speaks remains to be heard. But since Tiny is still incensed about Lonrho's recent platinum deal, take a packed lunch. It could be a long meeting. starting at 11am.

DUN & BRADSTREET, the business information group, is doing its bit for 14-16 year olds anxious to learn more about business. It is offering 500 free CD Roms, Key British Enterprises — otherwise £2,000 each, to secondary schools on a first come first served basis.

COLIN CAMPBELL.

UK defence business revels in call to arms by French

Chirac-led reforms will bring industry shakeup, says Ross Tieman

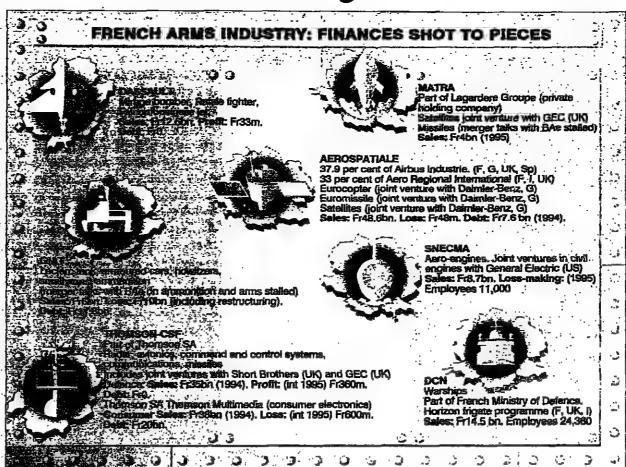
the Francophile finance director of British Aerospace, should be smiling. Not only is Britain's biggest defence contractor poised to announce a remarkable profits recovery tomorrow, but the overdue restructuring of the French aerospace and defence industries, critical to the future of BAe and its suppliers, is at last gathering pace.

The importance of reforms unleashed by President Jacques Chirac is not obvious this side of the Channel. The British Government has done its best to ease the pain of post-Cold War restructuring in the largest manufacturing sector by negotiating government-togovernment weapons export contracts with Saudi Arabia, Malaysia and Brunei. But it left its private-sector arms industry to take the opprobrium, and the enormous costs, of factory closures, mass redundancies and mergers.

Although incomplete, the process has been under way for five years. Across the Atlantic, Bill Clinton has taken a similar tack, lobbying for overseas orders and waving through an unprecedented industrial consolidation. Lockheed Martin, after a string of quick-fire mergers, now boasts annual sales of \$30 billion and relishes the opportunity to axe almost \$800 million a year of duplicated costs.

Astonishing and rapid im-provements in the cost-competitiveness of American and. to a lesser extent. British rivals has combined with strong currencies to highlight the overmanning and excess costs of French and German manufacturers. Handicapped by legislation to protect jobs, companies have recorded deepen-ing losses. In France, state-ownership,

strong unions and weak economic growth have made re-



structuring politically unpalatable. Nonetheless tentative moves have begun. Motivated partly by the desire to limit threats from any future German military resurgence, France's state aerospace company, Aérospatiale, was levered into merging its helicopter, missile and satellite businesses with those of Daimler-Benz. But the sites and programmes remained · little changed within a common ownership.

The French and Germans have also launched a common defence procurement agency as a first sten toward creating the common market in wearons that would give Europe's arms-makers the economies of marker scale enjoyed by American rivais.

But deprived of export markets, Germany's arms industry is a minnow compared to those of Britain and France. which vie for second place in the world league after the

largest European weapons company. British Aerospace, is just a third the size of Lockheed Martin.

President Chirac's reorganisation is partly designed to help French arms companies negotiate mergers with British and other rivals on equal terms. Dassault, the familycontrolled warplane maker, is being frogmarched into a marriage with Aérospatiale. This will bring together the small, but profitable and debt-free manufacturer of Mirage and Rafale jets with the lossmaking state aircraft group. which labours under Fr7.6 billion of debts.

Thomson-CSF, the electronics group that had been discussing a merger with GEC-Marconi, its chief UK rival, is to be packaged with its consumer electronics sister, Thomson Multimedia, and privatised this year. The plan will burden the profitable and debt-free defence arm with a debts of Fr20 billion. Quite how this will make it easier for the well-run defence business to carry on its internationalisation is unclear.

But this is just a start. Snecma, the state-controlled aero-engine maker, has enjoyed a successful 25-year partnership with General Electric of the US. This is under increasing strain because Snecma, overmanned, undercapitalised and insufficiently profitable, cannot afford to match Rolls-Royce on prices for civil jet engines. The problem is most acute in the contest to equip Boeing's new subjumbo, the 777, where Rolls has snatched 60 per cent of orders from Far East airlines. while Snecma loses money on

every GE90 engine sold. Giat, the state manufacturer of tanks, armoured cars and the like, has been in talks to merge its ammunitions, fieldguns and small arms, busi-Ordnance. But losses last year,

of Fr3 billion. A cash injection is the prelude to any deal. But the biggest problem for President Chirac is DCN, owned by the defence ministry, which designs and builds France's warships. Output

including restructuring costs,

were Frio billion, on sales of

Fro billion. Debts now exceed

Fr11.8 billion, on a capital base

value has slumped from Fr20 billion in 1990 to Fr14.5 billion last year as orders have been cut hack. Output per head is 70 per cent of that achieved by rivals. Protest marches have aiready begun as job cuts loom.

A recent report by Henri Conze, French chief of defence procurement, shows how far amitudes have changed. "It is desirable a true contractual relationship of the customersupplier type be established between DCN and the procurement executive, and that there should be separation between the two," it said.

After decades of chauvintitudes have at last gained the upper hand in France. This should open doors for Britain's defence champions. But the moves have not gone unnoticed across the Atlantic. America is taking down barriers to British defence exports: partnership links with American companies are also on the agenda. Thanks to President Chirac, the doors are opening to the international mergers the industry, and taxpayer. need so desperately.



US 'recovery' brings out the hungry bears

has actually used the R-word yet. But Alan Greenspan, the Federal Reserve Chairman, did remark in his Humphrey-Hawkins testimony last week that the US economy is "on track"; and that was enough. The Wall Street bond bears, the most frustrated group of speculators in the world, came promptly out of their lairs. They sold the long bond future into an already weak market, and were soon up to their usual bearish tricks: rumours of heavy losses by George Soros, among other hedge funds, caused a further fit of the vapours. By Monday, a prompt denial had restored some calm: but Wall Street is now a haunted place. shuddering at every creak of renewed activity.

in economic terms, the whole affair looks inexplicable. True, the US labour market is now seen as tight; but that is the only blemish in what remains the dream scenario - a genuine soft landing. How can growth be a worry in an economy in which inflation remains low, wage growth steady, and which has just posted quarterly growth at a mere 0.6 per cent annual rate? The bears point to distortions. Correct for the federal Government shutdown and exceptional weather, and the underlying rate comes up to 1.6 per cent at an annual rate. Still modest; but the manufacturing slowdown can be seen as the tail end of a mild inventory correction; and, most sinister of all, demand in the housing market is genuinely strong.

This is a matter of queasi-

ness by association. It is widely understood on Wall Street, though not elsewhere, that the 1994 bond market disaster (when a quarterpoint rise imposed by the Fed began a bond market avalanfor morgage-backed securities, where leveraged holders found themselves holding lengthening fixed-rate portfolios at a potential running loss. Could it happen again? Probably not. These investors have surely learnt not to leave their hedging efforts to the last moment; but no one can be sure. Then there is the ghost of 1987: could rising bond yields and falling equity yields again herald a crash?

inevitable in a market that has risen as dizzily as Wall Street; but unease is strength-

ened by a genuine puzzle. Why have bonds all over the world weakened so much in recent weeks? It can hardly growth; the slide started when recession fears were at a peak, especially in Europe. A bond boom has been justified economically; but its technical foundation looks dangerous. It is not just a boom, but a bubble many professional bond positions are not just leveraged, but subject to exchange risk, since they have been financed by cheap yen loans. At every revival of the yen exchange rate, some of these nositions are nervousiv closed.

Believing monetarists, an endangered species still to be found in healthy numbers in bond research, are also worried by another yen-related phenomenon: the renewed growth of broad money, notably in the US and UK. A lively M4 debate is already joined in London, led rather predictably by NatWest and Professor Tim Congdon on the side of worry, and by Roger Bootle and Flemings for calm. M4 presages inflation — or it simply means that bidding companies are accumulating war chests. But it could be bad for bonds even if it does not presage inflation: in the simplest NatWest statement: "Regardless of inflation prospects, accelerated money growth is always bad for bonds."

This crunching statement is thin on analysis, but well supported by history, and part of the debate is whether we are reliving 1994 - weak bonds but slowing inflation, so a full recovery - or 1988, when excessive monetary pump-priming after the 1987 crash did cause comes, and demand constrained by a heavy debt burden sound like 1994; aggressive bank expansion and the sheer scale of Japanese money creation are more like 1988. Instinct says that recent history almost never repeats itself: its lessons are too vivid. The economic weather, then, still looks settled. But nervous markets have their own laws, and a sudden restoration of calm is not among them.

Many a slip possible as Lloyd's nears final hurdle

I t is fast approaching crunch time at Lloyd's of London. After months of hard toll, number crunching and intense negotiations. Lloyd's ambitious £28 billion reconstruction and renewal plan is entering its final stages. But critical hurdles remain and the plan could

founder at the close.

The plan, called R&R, was unveiled nearly a year ago with two basic aims. First, to end the mass of legal actions brought by thousands of maicontent names and to prevent other actions from rearing their ugly heads. Secondly - and more fundamentally - to enable Lloyd's to survive.

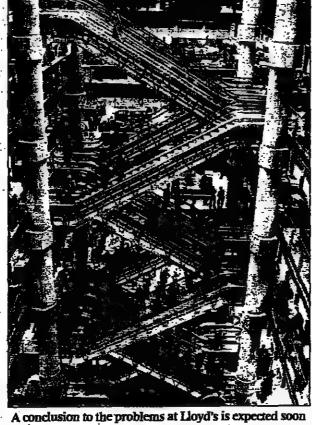
In just over a week, a longawaited letter will land on thousands of names doormats. The contents will give the 32,000-odd recipients an indication of how much they have to pay to escape from the insurance market. Currently names have no idea whether they are deemed by Lloyd's to be in debt, in credit or just plain bankrupt.
The contents will undeni-

ably shock many, upset others and please a pairry few. As a result, the letters, due to be sent next Friday, are expected to provoke an outery from numerous quarters, adding steam to the already heated debate over the R&R plan.

Lloyd's resembles a nest of competing vipers, some of which are stubborn, some deluded and others unable to distinguish reality from imagination. The symptoms are evident in all the constituent parts of Lloyd's - the agents, the council, ongoing names. burnt names, the errors and omissions underwriters, the personal stop-loss underwriters, the brokers, and the

syndicates auditors.

The problem is that each one has different goals and gripes but are linked together like squares on a Rubik cube. A slight movement in one quarter often has unimagin-able knock-on effects elsewhere. For the last ten months each group has postured and positioned in a bid to ensure they get the best possible result from the impending deal. But no deals have yet been struck.



Under the plan, £800 million is being offered as an out-ofcourt settlement to litigating names while £2 billion is being used to write down names' debts. Action-group leaders say the package is inadequate, arguing that it needs a substantial boost if Lloyd's wants to ensure names will vote to accept the offer in the summer.

However, at present every argument is pure rhetoric. Without a breakdown of the offer at the individual names level, no proclamation of intent has any validity as a name cannot claim he will reject the offer without knowing what that offer means to him. And even the indicative breakdown about to be revealed is still not final as the figures used to calculate the outcome are not yet fixed. The lack of final figures partly reflects the lack of deals made with the various contributors to the package.

This is because the E&O underwriters, PSL underwriters, Lloyd's agents and auditors are all holding their cards close to their chests and will continue bluffing until forced to show their hands.

At the same time the Department of Trade and Industry has not yet given the green light to Equitas, the reinsurance company being set up by Lloyd's to take over responsibility for the mass of old-year

The DTI was due to have passed judgment by the end of this month. However, it is not in a position to do so. This again reflects the lack of numerical data. The DTI's responsibility is to ensure that Equitas is adequately reserved and, if not assured of this fact, the regulator can deny the company an operating licence. However, the DTI is unable to

date details on syndicates' reserving and expected liabilities. This should be available within the next few weeks. As a result, second guessing

the DTI's decision on Equitas's reserving and capital is far from simple. The regulator may deem the £15 billion already held by Lloyd's syndicates together with a further E1.9 billion injection by names as ample. However, there is some concern it may demand an extra lump sum to act as a cushion. This partly reflects the fact that many future liabilities are impossible to quantify.

If the DTI demands an extra injection this will not aid the wrangle over the need for an extra boost to the litigation part of the package. If Lloyd's successfully entices auditors. or other parties, to make a sizeable contribution, then the added bonus might not be million lingation fund as it may be absorbed into Equitas. One possible answer is for Equitas to accept external funding but this would be considered unpopular by names as it would erode any potential financial return

made by Equitas.

Conversely, if the DTI deems the reserving and planned injection as adequate then any extra funds raised would be available to increase the litigation fund. There is some hope that the fund can be increased. Auditors are still not playing ball while both the E&O underwriters and Lloyd's agents are resisting pressure to lift their contributions from £800 million and £200 million respectively.

The reluctance on the part of the agents partially reflects the fact that many of them are owned by their directors and so any increase in the contribution will affect individual wallets not company coffers. But this is not a dress

rehearsal. If Lloyd's fails to win support for R&R from names this summer the insurance market's long-running fight for survival will be over. There will be no more chances.

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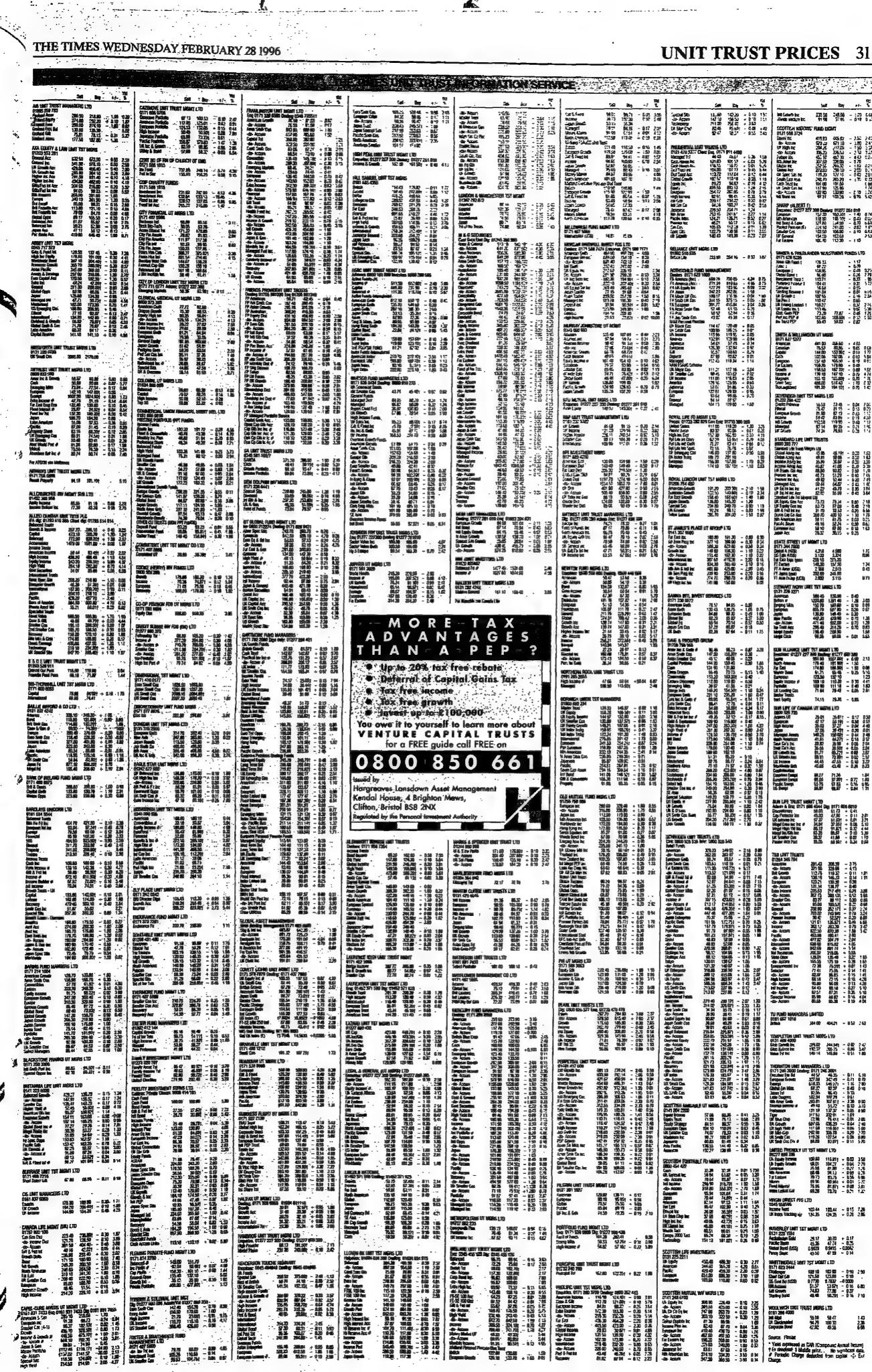
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Cable in £12m bid to boost poor sales

BY ERIC REGULY

BRITAIN'S beleaguered cable companies will launch a £12 million adverfising campaign next month in an effort to boost disappointing subscrip-tion sales. The move is designed to help to justify their planned £12 billion investment.

The campaign, designed by J Walter Thompson, the advertising agency, will feature both print and ITV ads and will last until the executives said that the ads will highlight the variety of TV programming available and the cost advantage of cable telephony.

Alan Michels, chief exec-

utive of TeleWest Communications, said: "The perception is that this is a male-dominated, sportsled product. We have to get across that this is a product for the family."

Until now, the cable companies had been concentrating on local promotion because only a small pro-portion of their franchises had been completed. With about half of their networks in place, they say they now have enough bulk for a national campaign. Research has shown that about one in four consumers is aware that programming offered by BSkyB, the satellite broadcaster, can be received on cable, and that many consumers think ca-ble telephony allows them to phone only other cable

Cable penetration rates have been well below expectations. Only one if five homes in franchised areas take cable television services. Cable telephony has been more popular. ☐ General Cable said that

Cable Corporation, its 83 per cent-owned subsidiary, has agreed to sell £43 million in fixed assets, primarily TV and telephony electronics, and lease them back for 10 years.



Turnover and profits rise for Paul Dixon, chief executive, right, and Garry Cuthbertson, finance director

Capita dips despite record £9.4m

collar services to local and central govern-ment, also said it had won up to £170 mil-

lion of new contracts in its outsourcing division. The new business includes a £35

million contract to provide the Driving

Standards Agency theory test for one mil-lion learner drivers from the summer.

Turnover rose 18 per cent, to £87 million.

and profits in the outsourcing division by 26 per cent, to £6 million, on a turnover of

Car sales accelerate at Dixon DIXON Motors, the car

distribution group that has increased its outlets to 28 from just ten during the past three years, sold a record 14,086 chicles in 1995, up 43 per cent over the previous year (Julie Henderson writes).

Final pre-tax profits rose 56 per cent, to £3.5 million, despite growing pressures on the consumer, and turnover by 55 per cent to £141 million. Earnings were 16.2p a share, and a final dividend of 3.325p makes a total of 5p, up 33 per cent.

Sales of new vehicles advanced 39 per cent, against a two per cent increase in the LIK new car market over the same period. New acquisiinclude outlets in Leeds, Bradford, Scun-thorpe, Sheffield, Retford and Wakefield. Shares in

Rising building society profits will prove mutually beneficial

THE general trend of rising profits from building societies in the current reporting season bodes well for millions of savers and borrowers who stand to receive better returns on deposits and pay lower home loan rates from societies wedded to old-fashioned mu-

All four of the societies that announced annual results yes-

By Alasdair Murray

SHARES in Capita, the management

services group, fell lop to 315p yesterday

even though the company unveiled record

The share price was hit by profit-taking

after a strong run on the shares had taken them to a record high of 33lp. Capita, which specialises in providing white-

full-year profits of £9.4 million.

mutual status quo and give members a better deal during 1996 by handing back to members some of their profits. Bradford & Bingley, the UK's fifth-largest society,

which recently announced plans to return to members £50 million of future profits, said profits were up 10 per cent to E111.8 million. The society's assets rose to £15.7 billion (£14.6 billion), while mortgage balances of £12.5 billion were

provisions rose slightly to E13.2 million. John Goodfellow, chief exec-

utive of the Skipton, which increased profits by more than 56 per cent to £27.2 million. said the building society movement was in the midst of a period of "controversy and change". He added: "The housing market on which our raison d'etre is centred was again depressed. This, however, gave us an opportunity to

members that mutuality is, and continues to be, a viable iorm of business entity."
Mr Goodfellow said the

Skipton would continue to improve rates for members, concluding: "By returning excess profits in the form of even more competitive and innovative products linked to enhanced services we can differentiate ourselves from societies which have chosen to convert."

E57 million, up 12 per cent. Property Services raised profits by a third, to £2.44

million, on turnover up 50 per cent, at £20.4 million. But profits fell 23 per cent.

to £1 million, in the advisory division, though Capita said the unit had made record profits in the second half, after per-

sonnel changes, and anticipated an improved 1996. The dividend rises 18 per

cent to 3.9p, payable on 29 April.

raised profits by £600,000 to £40.7 million, said: "We are. firmly committed to our building society status, not through sentimentality, but because of a profound belief that we can constrate the value of membership of the Coventry to our members, who are also Bill Midgley, chief executive of the Newcastle, which re-ported increased profits to £10.3 million, said that lower

bome loan rates introduced in January for borrowers of five years standing or more, would be followed up with more "mutuality benefits".

☐ The Woolwich Building Society has appointed BZW as its broker in preparation for its £3 billion stock market flotation next year. Schroders, the investment bank, is advising Woolwich on its plans to convert into a bank. The Woolwich's stock market de-but is likely to take place in autumn 1997.

Unigate closes plants with loss of 400 jobs

ABOUT 400 jobs will be lost when one of Britain's largest producers of bacon and sausages shuts down a 220-year-old lactory. Harris Group, a subsidiary of Hillsdown Holdings, said the closure of the factory at Ipswich, Suffolk, would go ahead despite yesterday's announcement that its pig mean business is to be sold to Unigate for Ell.4 million. Unigate will take a sold to the sold to will take over a bacon slicing plant at Winsford, Cheshire, and a processing plant at Elmswell in East Anglia.

These activities with a relative plant at Elmswell in East Anglia.

These activities, with annual turnover of £100 million, will form part of Unigate's Malton subsidiary, already the UK's largest pig meat processor, with throughput of almost 50,000 largest pig meat processor, with throughput of almost 50,000 largest pig meat processor. pigs each week. Sales have doubled to £350 million since 1993:

Pilkington Tiles sold

BTR, the industrial conglomerate, has sold off its subsidiary Pilkington Tiles to a management team for £21.5 million. Pilkington, which is based in Manchester and Poole, had sales of £23.8 million in 1995. BTR has disposed of companies worth about £750 million in the last few months to help to cover the costs of the £2 billion purchase of the minority stake in BTR Nylex, its Australian subsidiary. Ian Strachan, chief executive, said: "We are very pleased to have concluded the sale of Pilkington Tiles UK, which is a business outside our manufacturing force a BTD charge was 2.5c to close at 3220. manufacturing focus." BTR shares rose 3.5p to close at 322p.

Ascot disposals continue

ASCOT HOLDINGS, the leisure company formerly known as Control Securities, has sold 251 public houses for £24.51million to Mayfair Taverns, a new company formed by the million to Maytair Taverns, a new company formed by the existing management with financial support of Phildrew Ventures. The disposal follows the sale of Ascot's Spanish hotels in January and leaves the company with net cash of £19 million, compared with debts of £302 million at the end of September 1992. The company proposes to divest its remaining 193 lower barrelage pubs which, for the time being, will be managed by Mayfair Taverns.

Domnick Hunter ahead

DOMNICK HUNTER, the air and liquid filtration and gas separation group, said orders in the current financial year were running significantly ahead of the opening weeks of 1995. Strong growth is expected in the industrial division, particularly in overseas markets, while the process division maintained fight cost controls and should continue growth trends. In the year to December 31, pre-tax profits rose to £7.17 million from £5.6 million. Earnings were 13.71p a share (9.77p) and there is a final dividend of 3.6p a share for a total of 6p (5p).

Laurie Connell dies

LAURIE CONNELL, one of Australia's brashest tycoons who made and lost millions of dollars in the 1980s, died suddenly yesterday midway through a trial in which he was accused of major corporate fraud. He was 49. Police said Connell collapsed at his home. Ambulance officers said he suffered a heart attack. Connell was the head of the Perth. Rothwells investment bank, a high risk-taking lender of last resort for several highlying entrepreneurs in the 1980s. He had been standing trial over the 1988 collapse of Rothwells...

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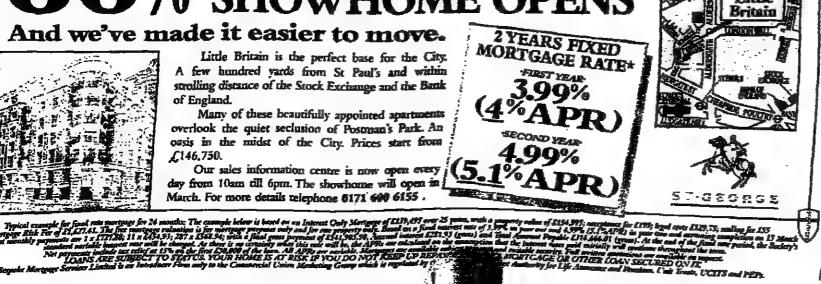
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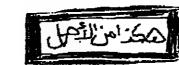
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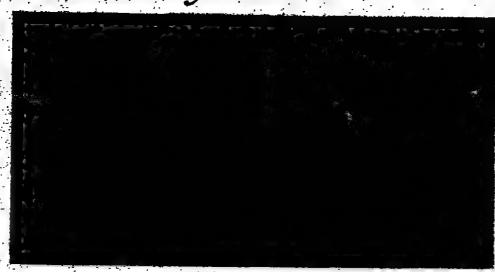
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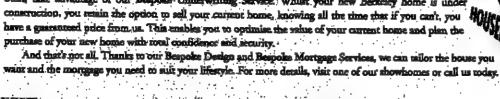
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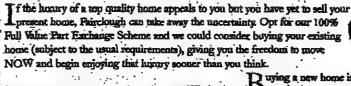
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Britain's new home design is under attack. Is there room for more creativity? Rachel Kelly reports

Conran ignited a housing design debate when he accused Britain of building "terrible tacky boxes" with take Georgian porticoes, coach lamps, ersatz Tudor beams and other shabby nonentities. If he is right, is this the real reason for the housing market slump? Or are these traditional styles in fact what buvers demand? Are modern houses better built than ever?

Sir Terence was speaking at the launch of a report, Time for Design, by the urban regeneration agency English Partnerships, where he joined the architect Sir Richard Rogers, and David Taylor, chief executive of the agency, in urging builders to forgo neo-Georgian pastiche and be

more imaginative.

Much of what Sir Terence says is familiar. He chants a litany already outlined by the Council for the Protection of Rural England and the Royal Institute of British Architects (RIBA) in reports last year.

Their opinion is that developers should build houses more in keeping with local architecture and landscape. So cob and thatch should triumph in Devon, granite and slate in Cornwall, flint in north Norfolk, and stone farmhouses in North Yorkshire and the Cotswolds.

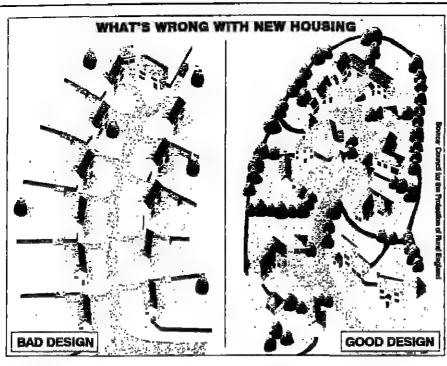
New developments should include more open space in their designs and homes should be built on plots of different sizes to add variety, Sir Terence says. New sites should be surrounded by different boundaries - walls. trees hedges or lences — while individual houses should have varied exteriors, be they stone. steel, glass, brick, or flint.

should feature different types of houses, some more expensive, echoing the repeated call of a Government keen to see a mix of housing tenure. The layout of new estates could foster a sense of community with the help of winding, fluid roads and careful

landscaping.
But Sir Terence has pushed the debate forward by saying that builders should consider other architectural styles, including higher-rise blocks which could work well for single people or the elderly if

FRANCE

Sir Terence has designs on houses



THE COUNCIL for the Protection of Rural England uses this graphic to illustrate good and bad design of new housing. The layout on the left lacks any variety in plot size. The houses are standard, glued to the road, with driveways in between. All the houses offer

By contrast, the second scheme offers a variety of houses, in vernacular style

appropriate to their rural context. The dusters create visual interest and the main feature is the farmstead. There are pleasing views and a sense of community, rather than of being marooned in a cul de sac.

Builders claim they are hindered by regulations on planning and roads, but the design of the second scheme conforms to

CLASSIC . COUNTRY HOMES

they were well maintained and serviced. The man who brought modern furniture into British homes through his Habitat stores says there is a need for more lofts and open-

plan living.
"Builders should provide more variety." Sir Terence says. "They should give people the opportunity to create space

It is easy to be sceptical

about Sir Terence's ideas. An open-plan home would clearly not suit a family of warring adolescents. One person's mock Georgian concoction is another's dream home. And it is true, as Roger Humber, president of the House Builders' Federation, says, that at least some of the items on Sir Terence's wish-list are already

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constrained by what is acceptable to planners. Only a small proportion of new homes are built in the country; even if builders came up with designs which satisfied the Council for the Protection of Rural England, planners would give the thumbs down, Mr Humber It is also true that research

In turn, housebuilders are

And it is probably fair com-ment that if new homes are not selling it is as much because of the recession as because of their design. Mr Humber points out that the sale of new homes has increased to 12.5 per cent of the market compared with 10 per cent three years ago.

years ago.

Customers want conservative house designs, Mr Humber says, as their prime need is the ability to resell their home; there is no evidence that the market wishes for a significantly different product.

But Sir Terrorce done have a

But Sir Terence does have a point. How can housebuilders know what the public want if they do not offer them any choice?

Much modern volume housing does indeed jar. The 1980s brought a housebuilding boom unknown in previous times, and with it much shoddy building which flattened local architectural dialects: Executive estates mushroomed on the edges of villages. Boxes with garage additions glued to the edge of ribbon roads created a somewhere-but-no-

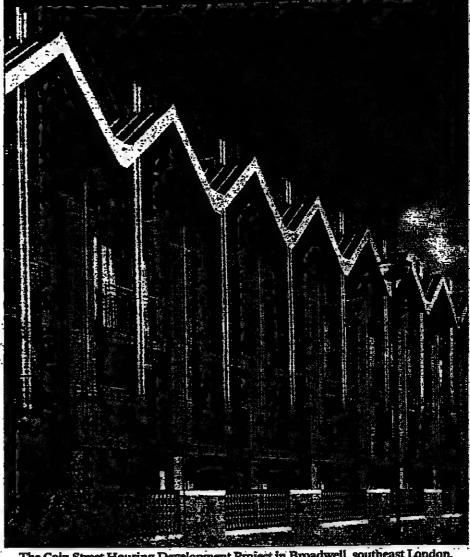
the public agree. A recent Gallup poll re-vealed that a majority of those questioned found new-build private sector housing "nothing special", "mediocre" or simply

appalling".
The growth in the number of people building their own homes, and the success of magazines such as Individual Homes, bear witness to the desire for individual design. Speculative housebuilders have for too long concentrated on quantity, not quality. Marjorie and Peter Bourne

are typical. Mr Bourne is a Scottish painter who needed a large, light space to work in, so he and his wife built their own home — designed with a lifestyle in mind.

Julian Owen, the director of Associated Self Building Architects, says: "A recent New Homes Marketing Board survey found that one in ten buyers struggles to find the house he or she wants. There are more empty new houses on the market than ever, so there is clearly a conflict between what is being deand consumer de-

There is dissatisfaction with mass-produced, new-build



The Coin Street Housing Development Project in Broadwell, southeast London, designed by architects Lifschutz Davidson won the 1995 RIBA Award for good design. The 25 dwellings include a terrace of ten four-bedroom family houses and a mix of flats, plus a community meeting room and office. Three of the flats are for wheelchair users and nine others are for the active elderly. The scheme makes the best use of a difficult site. By stacking the single flats into a tower on the northern tip of the site, land was released for II family houses. The interior layouts of the house are flexible, with a central core of a staircase and lavatories, so that rooms can be converted as the needs of homeowners change. A large bedroom, for example, can be split into two smaller ones. The tower makes the best of the river views and the gabled roofs give the houses a clear identity. The pitched roofs provide loft storage on the street side. The scheme uses interesting materials such as zinc and iroko wood.

mediocrity. A RIBA survey in November 1994 supported the view that a third of all new housing should be modern rather than pastiche.

So Sir Terence has usefully highlighted an important subject. Design matters. There are at present fine opportunities for better design, particularly on urban sites. Government planning policies mean that it is easier for developers to win

planning permission on brown field, or inner-city, rather than green-field sites. Government is beginning to listen. At last planning controls are being strengthened. Last year's Rural White Paper promised better design in the

countryside.

We should all mind. Latest figures from the Environment Department suggest that more than four million bomes must

be built in the next 20 years. We are all responsible for the built environment that will be passed on to future generations. It would be nice if the challenge was not left to commercial builders alone.

The Individual Homes Building and Renovating Show takes place at the NBC in Birmingham from March 7 to 10, Half-price tackets. calling 0181-710 2196.

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Canary Wharf sings of success

he decision by the Reader's Digest Association to move its UK headquarters to Canary Wharf - despite the attentions of the IRA earlier this month - is a boost to the commercial property market in London's Docklands. The global publisher last week completed an agreement to buy II Westferry Circus, a selfcontained, 140,000 sq ft building, and will move its London

staff there in 1997. Neil McRae, the Reader's Digest managing director, says: "When we started to look for a new base for our London operation, it soon became clear that there were few locations which could offer the combination of working facilities and quality of life that we demand for our staff worldwide. Canary Wharf is one such place, with state-of-theart buildings and a stimulat-ing working environment which is also lively, friendly

The price has not been disclosed, but Canary Wharf Ltd, now with Paul Reichmann, the original developer, back as chairman and acting chief executive, is delighted with the agreement.

The deal brings the total pace committed at Canary Wharf in the past 12 months to

Christopher Warman spots promising signs in an area often seen as a Docklands indicator

When the present committed space is occupied, the working population of Canary Wharf will rise from 13,500 to more than 20,000. About 80 per cent of the space at the development is now committed.

The announcement of the deal coincides with the publication of a number of reports the state of the London office market. In general, they look back on 1995 as a poor year. expect the next six months to show little improvement, but then see stronger growth later in the year and in 1997.

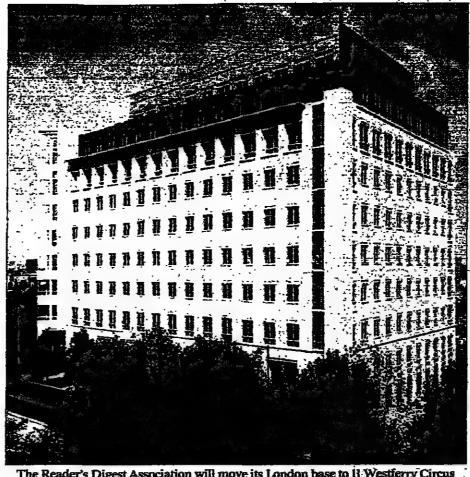
Swart Morley, the head of research at Grimley, which has just published its quarterly bulletin The Economy and the Property Market, concludes: "All the indicators are looking very positive for late 1996 and 1997, and our latest forecasts are for double-figure rental growth in all sectors in 1997, which is likely to be the peak year of the present rental cycle."

Weatherall Green & Smith reports that overall take-up of

more than 1.3 million sq ft. 8.44 million sq ft in all central London office markets in 1995 was the lowest level since 1992. Conversely, the vacancy rate — excluding Docklands — fell to 10.2 per cent, its lowest figure since 1990.

The shortage of available quality space means that large occupiers have little alternative but to consider pre-letting. Forty speculative developments over 20.000 sq ft have now started, of which just over half are in the West End and are due to complete by the end of 1996. During this year, Weatherall expects overall take-up to remain largely unchanged. But more developments will stan as the first wave of new projects comes to the market. In the City of London rents could rise to more than £40 a sq ft, marking the end of oversupply of property in the early 1990s.

The company believes that in the London market as a whole a greater balance is emerging between supply and demand. The neturn of prelettings means "there is little doubt that the worst is over".



The Reader's Digest Association will move its London base to 11 Westferry Circus

Rising up near St Paul's

THE St Martins Property Group has started construction of Armour & Union House, a 172,000 sq ft office building in Gresham Street, near St Paul's Cathedral. Due for completion in 1997, the building will provide more than 21,500 sq ft on each floor and has been designed for the financial sector.

Refurbishment works to the adjoining building, lo St Martin's le Grand, have also begun. The 49,000 sq ft building will be completed in spring 1997 and could potentially be linked with Armour & Union House. Laing Construction is the main contractor, and Herring Baker Harris and Jones Lang Wootton are the joint letting agents.

☐ ANTHONY Crickmay. the photographer, is selling his studies in Fulham for £4 million through George Stead Commercial. He bought the building, originally a coach and carriage Grand Bahamians.

repair workshop with sta-bling for horses, in a derelict state in 1984, and has

refurbished it. There is a 5.750 sq ft first-floor daylight studio with a sprung floor to aid dancers jumping for the camera, and a second studio in the

original carriage work-

☐THE Grand Bahama Port Authority Group has entered into an exclusive agreement with P&O's subsidiary Bovis to assist in the long term development of a 230 square mile area of the island, off Florida.

. Working with the group Hayward and Mr Edward St George, Bovis, the construction and resort development group, will review and revise the master plan for Preeport, with the aim of creating new economic and employment opportunities for the is-

Sir Jack says: "Bovis wili help to devise and implement a development strategy for Grand Bahama to attract worldwide investors in industrial and residential development. This will translate directly into jobs and prosperity for all

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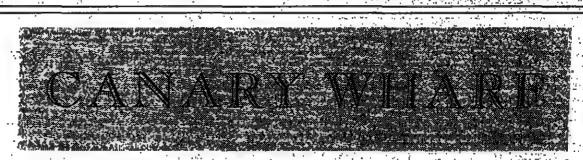
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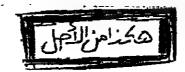
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THEATRE I

Is it sensible for the National to woo Trevor Nunn, one of the world's busiest directors?



THEATRE 2

Sub-Stoppardian conceits and post-Python doodles in the new All in the Timing





Vanessa and Corin Redgrave treat the

THEATRE 3 Texans to their lively stagings of Shakespeare



■ TOMORROW

Noel Coward's wry thespian comedy, Present Laughter, reviewed by Benedict. Nightingale

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THEATRE: Benedict Nightingale warns against a part-time captain following Eyre at the National. Plus reviews

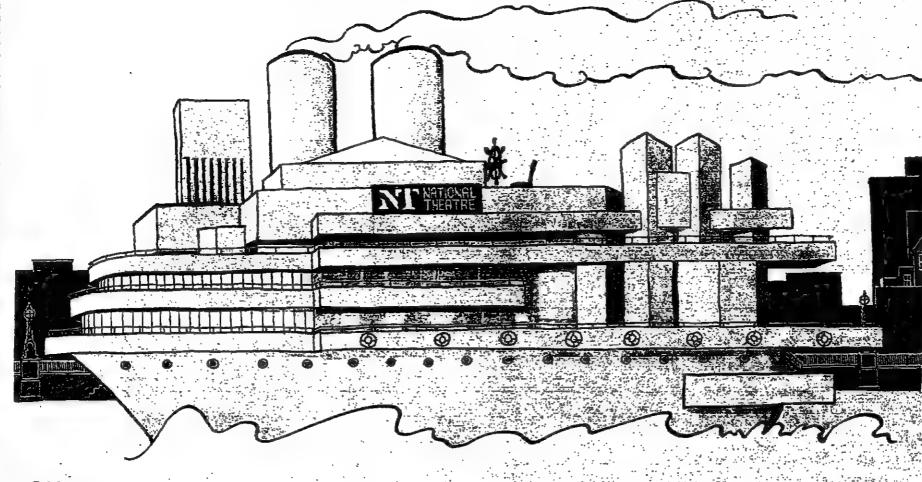
Can Nunn really be the answer?

the National Theatre has variously been described as a library of living drama, a all times and climes can be found. and a great theatrical zoo. Look. there's the long-maned (been grave-ly prowling his cage, while Strindnerg sets up an awful ontological howling next door. Look, there's Alfred Jarry in his tree, hurling bananas at the visitors. Look at the Small Mamet House, instantly recognisable by the four-letter words and two-word sentences fly ing through the door.

These days, talk of libraries. museums and zoos is unfashionable. It makes the National sound too institutional. Yet it indicates what kind of theatre it is and is not. and therefore what sort of person its board should choose as the fourth artistic director in its 34-year history. The National cannot be primarily dedicated to one author, like the RSC, or one point of view, like the Berliner Ensemble. It cannot reflect one vision, like Brook's Internationai Centre of Theatre Research, or embody one style, like Stanislavsky's Moscow Art Theatre. Its work needs to be infinitely diverse. and therefore its director must be a person of unusual openmindedness and remarkably catholic tastes.

But that still sounds as if someone is being hired to run a dramatic V&A. Enterprise, daring and alertness to a fast-changing world are also part of the job-description. The leader of the British theatre — for that is the post on offer - must be as responsive to the new and untried as to the old and tried. One of his hands should be taking the pulse of the present while the other turns the pages of the past. He should be able to excite as well as facilitate. He should have heat in his own belly as well as the ability to fire up others.

There are other requirements, too; but these already seem enough to make the task of the search committee set up by the National's board seem pretty daunting. Will it opt for one of the people named in the poll of 60-odd leading theatre profes-sionals recently conducted by *The* Stage — Jonathan Kent, Nicholas Hytner, Jude Kelly and, miles out in front. Sam Mendes and Stephen director, Richard Eyre, to extend the contract that expires next year, as a justifiably flattering 10 per cent wanted? He has, after all, successfully fulfilled the job's key demands. keeping up a fine flow of representative classics and opening his doors to the likes of Robert Lepage and Theatre de Complicite, if not taking the risks on new dramatists Daldry has managed in his brief, glittering reign at the Royal Court.



A CHAINWAYOU

forward into the past. Reportedly its first choice is the 56-year-old who directed a baby-faced Eyre as Seyton in an undergraduate Macbeth in 1962; the one who had already assumed control of the RSC by the time Peter Hall became the National's director in 1973. When the purple smoke rises from that concrete tower, and press officers emerge with joyful cries of "habemus papam", Sir Peter's throne seems likely to belong to Trevor Nunn.

That's a surprise, for he does not feature either in The Stage poll or the forefront of most people's minds. feelings. Yes, Nunn is a brilliantly versatile director, a proven administrator and a man of great personal decency. But has he the time. commitment and fire the job needs? And has the search committee been doing everything that the importance of its task demands - or is it, as some feel, an unrepresentative body that has been passive and even lazy in its workings?

Given that there was no obvious candidate already in the wings the case with the three previous

choices — its members needed to go out on to the theatrical highways and byways and solicit scores of views, comments and, maybe, applications. That is what happened before the RSC appointed Adrian Noble as its director, even though he was being groomed for the job. That is especially necessary now, for the seven-person committee contains not one performer. But it seems that mere pros must remain in their boxes, like chess pieces, while the

ere the pros and pawns to speak, I suspect they to ask of Nunn. Smallscale productions of Timon of Athens and Measure for Measure recently proved he has not lost his touch as a director of classics, while Sunset Boulevard shows that nobody handles a large stage and cast much better. If another of the job requirements is to mix the intimate and the epic, the highbrow and the popular, and keep broadening the National's appeal, Nunn is a good

Given the skill with which he

managed an expanding RSC, he is fully capable of running three auditoriums, too. Yet here is the worry. The early 1970s were great times for Nunn and the RSC, but by the early 1980s he was increasingly an absentee landlord, visiting the Stratford tenantry when the likes of Cats and Starlight Express allowed.

Kenneth Branagh's autobiogra-phy contains a disturbingly comic description of being "Trevved": fulsomely congratulated in 90 seconds flat ("Huuuuuuuuugely enjoyable") by a chief executive who had not got round to seeing his Henry V until his 138th and penultimate performance.

edly wrote to Jimmy Savile asking if he would fix a meeting with their boss. So, if Hollywood or Andrew Lloyd Webber beckon, would the National's actors end up communicating with Nunn by fax or postcards? Certainly, the board should insist he does no outside work for three years, as it did with Eyre. But the worry goes deeper than

that. At this stage in his career Nunn has nothing to prove and, one imagines, no financial anxieties. Will he have the drive, the sheer hunger to be a National man 24 hours a day? That is what Mendes and Daldry would bring to the job, and it is absurd to argue that this would be outbalanced by their immaturity, for at 30 and 35 they are both older than either Hall or Nunn was when they took over running the RSC.

ithough Eyre is handing on a theatre in sound artistic ... and ... financial. health, there will be plenty decisions to make problems stance, is the National to react to the disappearance of the RSC from the Barbican each summer and the opening of the Globe just downriver? If money runs short, as it regularly does, will Nunn be an active, effective lobbyist for funds? Can you imagine him leaping on to a coffee table and publicly lambasting his paymasters, as Hall

Conversely, suppose the government allows lottery money to be used to finance productions. Will he make the National more genuinely national by expanding its touring schedule? Will he do what now nent ensemble of maybe 70 performers to occupy the Olivier and Cottesioe, while ad-hoc casting continues in the Lyttelton? 🔻 🧓

True, neither Mendes nor Daldry has formally applied for the job. Yet the former has not denied an interest, while canny wooing could-well lure the latter from the Court. Either appointment would be greeted with excitement in the profession and, I imagine, the public at large.
Mendes's directing successes have ranged from Shakespeare to Sondheim, Friel to Bart, and he has made the Donmar the liveliest theatre in central London. Daldry has performed wonders at the tiny Gate, the larger Court and, as anybody who saw Machinal or An Inspector Calls will agree, the mighty Lyttelton itself.

Is the National board frightened of youth and energy? Is the talk in its committee rooms of "a safe pair of hands" and "being responsible" and doing the wise thing"? If so, the cowards should remember an old theatrical adage: nothing is riskier. than trying too hard to avoid risk.

although in Julius Caesar, Marc Antony (Harewood again, with great rhetorical power) had a scanty complement of friends, Romans, and countrymen to hear the funeral speech.

Nothing could be more all-American than Robert Wilson's witty, exhibitanting new production of Virgil Thomson's Four Saints in Three Acts at the Houston Grand Opera, which will be per-formed at Edinburgh next summer, Opinion will always be divided over this piece. Some find Thomson's pastiche of marches, parlour songs, and spirituals charming, and Gertrude Stein's enigmatic word play profound. For others (including me), it's a long 90 minutes, and Stein's libretto now, is stultifying to the point of being risible.

Nonetheless, it is exactly the sort of modernist text that Robert Wilson was born to stage, and he has created athrilling evening of theatre. All his trademarks are present: he begins with a cavernous, empty stage, magnificently lit, and obtrudes on to it strange, beautifully rendered fragments. And Francesco Clemente's costumes are couberantly fantastical.

The cast sang with passion, and the Houston Grand Opera and Chorus performed splendidly for the conductor, Dennis Russell Davies.

A little flimsy whimsy

All in the Timing Nottingham Playhouse

YEATS had the notion that he should have shown his strong and manly self to Maud poetic self. If he had done so passion might have bloomed between them. And, if he was right, the world might have bonary and lost the writer who went on mounting Gonne deep into old age. But poor Years said the wrong thing - and the relationship

That tale would appeal to David Ives, the American author of the six playlets he calls All in the Timing. He enjoys playing games with potential realities and alternative time-warps. Indeed, his opening piece has a lad trying to pick up a girl in a cafe. Again and again he says an offputting thing: "I don't go out much since my nervous oreakdown"; or, very heartily, What's a good-looker like you doing out alone on a Friday night?". Mabel Aitken, playing his target, shrinks away like Maud from W.B.

But again and again Steve Punt, playing the predator, is allowed to take a chronological back-somersault. He reafter bad line. By the end the two of them are walking off arm-in-arm to a movie and,

Yeats has got his Gonne. It is a diverting little whim-sy, but only once is it matched by what follows. Here, Hugh Dennis plays a New Yorker who goes into a drugstore, only to find it does not sell aspirin, and then into a deli that has run out of pastrami. He has fallen into a weird time-hole called a Philadelphia, after Pennsylvania's gium chief city. Or so he is informed by Punt, who plays a friend currently stuck in a Los Angeles, meaning that he greets the loss of his wife and his job with the same laid-

back Californian shrug. Again you will be amused. but not a lot more. The flat, sloping clock upon which Hugh Wooldridge's production is set may be hinting that there is some metaphysical substance to Ives's plays, but, if so, it eludes me. Mostly, he offers sub-Stoppardian conceits and post-Python doodles. Monkeys bang away at typewriters in a comic attempt to appease a scientist by composing Hamlet and Paradise Lost. Debra Beaumont joins Hugh Dennis in composing a new Esperanto called Unamunda.

Each of these has a promising · moment - or - two, then overextends and overreaches itself. It is the same, I fear, with the one sketch that Ives has added to the programme that played successfully off-Broadway two years ago. Degas — rest moi is a Walter Mitty story in which the excellent Punt performs a New Yorker who spends a day pretending he is the great Post-Impressionist, while the rest of the four-person cast are taxi-driver, a mundane wife and, for one inexplicable moment, the painter Renoir.

But at least this piece has a point to it. Soi-disant Degas wife trudges into the bath-room, strips off, and for a moment looks as if she might have stepped out of a canvas at the Met. Moral: the ordinary can be extraordinary if only you have the wit to see it.

BENEDICT NIGHTINGALE

Redgraves' Romans go roaming in Texas

In Houston, Jamie James watches

a famous brother-and-sister act

in fine form, and an operatic rarity

humours, which in lesser

hands might seem showy or

oddly assorted. She has a tal-

David Harewood, who match-

es her passion for passion,

Like all the British actors in

these Alley productions, Hare-

wood is a member of the Red-

graves's London-based Mov-

While there is dignity, clar-

ity, and some inventiveness in Corin Redgrave's direction of

Julius Caesar, the produc-

tion's focus could have been

sharper. There seems to be a

ing Theatre.

partner as Antony.

my Father two years ago. She is making her American directorial debut here, as is her brother, who has taken the title role in Julius Caesar. The palm goes to Antony and Cleopatra, primarily because of the astonishing performance of its leading lady. Yet Vanessa Redgrave's concep-

f Vanessa Redgrave had chosen to play Shake-

speare's Cleopatra on

Broadway rather than in Tex-

as, she would be locked in a duel for the best-actress Tony

award with Zoe Caldwell, who

is impersonating Maria Cal-

las in Terrence McNally's

Master Class.
She chose instead to bring a

troupe of British actors, in-

cluding her brother Corin, to

perform a little Shakespeare

lestival at Houston's Alley

Theatre, where her sister Lynn

performed Shakespeare for

tion of the play is in no way a star vehicle for herself but an intelligent reading of the complete text (or close to it), with an Elizabethan milieu, which takes the radical approach of letting Shakespeare speak for himself, rather than using the text as a commentary on today's headlines. Redgrave's Cleopatra is a marvel, an almost literal ren-

dering of Enobarbus's observation that "custom cannot stale her infinite variety", her performance a quicksilvery creation of constantly shifting

passionless intelligence. When Cassius declared that ages hence the play's "lofty scene" would be "acted over in states unborn and accents yet unknown", he could not have known it would be told in the accents Texas. One approached the collaboration between the Redgraves and the Alley with trepidation; in the event the two companies blended as well as many British companies, in which one finds a mingling of Northern burrs. broad Midlands vowels and glottal stops. One decided exception was the Alley's Alex Allen Morris, whose exagger-



Vanessa Redgrave in Antony and Cleopatra

pallid and bernused, but after Caesar's death, his performance ripened and deepened to tragic dimensions. Howard Saddler was a complex delightfully well-spoken Cassius; he was much better in this role than his rather puny Octavius Caesar in Antony and Cleopatra. As usual, the Alley mounted handsome productions,

tentative attempt to invoke 20th-century fascism: while Caesar's body lies in state, ated country drawl in the role Verdi's Dies Irae thunders of Enobarbus marred Antony and the mob throws books on Otherwise, the acting in. to a bonfire. Likewise, there is a vague intimation of a homothese productions was genererotic bond between Cassius ally excellent. Corin Redand Brutus, but it is too timid grave's Caesar had grandeur to make its point. By play's with just the right pinch of end, the effect is one

Feltch's Brutus at first seemed

Warmth and spirit from satisfying partnership these were evident in the Sonata Op

SINCE his prinewinning form in the Moscow International Tchaikovsky Competition six years ago. Tim Hugh has steadily built a distinctive reputation as a solo cellist, as well as returning to the orchestral fold as coprincipal in the London Symphony Orchestra. His recital with Philippe Cassard, often a more than equal partner at the piano, showed Hugh as a cellist of wide dynamic range and technical flexibility, keeping a firm focus on the composer's

Debussy's Sonata, where the unusual variety of mood and content and unconventional form demand exceptional sensibility. Hugh's impassioned playing sometimes threatened to split the work's seams, but it also infused a wealth of irony and other expressive character into music wherein the figure of Harlequin was the composer's inspiration, while Cassard's experience in Debussy's piano music was reflected in his bold vet elegant style.

RECITAL

Hugh/Cassard Wigmore Hall

He had taken an assertive lead in bolstering the cheerful pretensions of Mendelssohn's Cello Sonata No 2 to open the programme, giving the cellist the opportunity to add charm to its musical histrionics. More of

XII by Christiane Boesch, titled The Money Changers, which was given its premiere.

The composer seems to have a

Swiss background and London residence, and her brief programme note indicated a descriptive purpose for music moulded in a market resounding world" and "distorted into wrath before reaching some kind of spiritual resolution. The writing is constantly close-textured between the two players, who are fully occupied

throughout its 12 minutes and who alternate prominence
Both players responded warm

heartedly to the romantic eloquence of Brahms in his F major Cello Sonata (No 2), with well-judged dy-namics in the dramatic development of the first movement, a poetic song and dialogue in the darkly broody Adagio, and a strong sense of harmonic direction and lively spirit in the rest to generate satisfaction.

NOEL GOODWIN

No. it seems not. The word is that the committee is taking a big step FROM BACH TO BIRTWISTLE: YOU CAN SAVE UP TO £30 OFF THE PRICE OF A CONCERT TICKET

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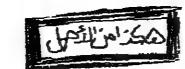
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THE



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Another tale of two cities

Hilary Finch discovers why concert halls in London and

Berlin are pooling programmes

call it Group Dynamics in Bertin. simply as the Kammerer International, . But whatever its name, this first ever twining of

two cultural flagships - the City of London's concert hall with the Konzerthaus of the former East Berlin promises an unusual spring festival of international chamber orchestras meeting and playing all the music they like best-

The series is already under way in Berlin: they Academy of St Martin and Toronto's Tafelmusik. London switches in on Monday with Nikolaus Harnoncourt and the Vienna Concentus. Musicus. Yuri Bashinet's Moscow Soloists play Beslin on April 18 and London two days later; on May 19 the Konzerthaus hosts the

Stockholm-Chamber Orchestra which visits the Barbican on May

The cham-

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find them-

selves in more

strikingly dif-

one way through the thicket of financial

6 It offers

constraints ? chitectural anachronism the Philharmonie's 22001 when it was opened in 1982, cherubim and wall-to-walldoodlings, finds its counterpart in a gracious meo-.

heart of Berlin's Gendermenmarkt. Schiller's great dramas were born in this former Schauspielhaus: Gustaf: Grundgens (Klaus Mann's Mephisto) was its last Intendant. Erich Honecker raised it from the ruins of war into its next incarnation: that of a much needed Konzerthaus, with its interior lovingly restored in the

colours and decorative de-

built-at the start of the 19th .

century as part of a noble.

tails of its original architect Karl Friedrich Schinkel When Professor Frank Schneider took over as the new Intendant and artistic director in 1992, his domain was a superb main hall, modelled on Vienna's Musikverein and bright with chandeliers and gilt galleries; an exquisite Kleine Saal for chamber music; and a basement Musik-Club for coffee, cabaret and contemporary music. But his problems had only just begun. The

t the Barbican they fall of the Wall had left Berlin with two cultural centres - and what the federal Government saw as numerous examples of du-plication. The Konzerthaus found itself caught up in the complex problems of cultur-

al funding in a new capital. newly reunited Akademie der Kunste which, since its foundation in the 17th century, has acred as a forum for debate between politicizos and artists, the Konzerthaus survived attempts to dis band its resident orchestra the Berlin Symphony, and to be forced into commercial privatisation. But it would have to find ways of proving itself in an environment with no tradition of private sponsorship, and of developing a distinctive and al ternative identity to the Philharmonie in the West.

Professor Schmeider likes to think of the rival Philharmonie as an orchestra (the harmonic) and the Konz-

and rather more beside. He rejoices in the greater intimacy of the Konzerthaus 1,400 seats to which makes it an ideal

venue for visiting chamber ensembles; and is delighted that the Kooperations modell .. Synergie-Effekte namics is providing the impetus to make it possible for him to hire groups he would otherwise still firid it difficult to afford.

He speaks of providing a platform for the many young composers who were previously denied a voice; for an annual cultural crossover production (the figure of Thomas Mann haunts him); and, above all; of "the democratic principle of hosting music from many. other cultures than our

It is projects like Group Dynamics, he feels, which offer one way forward. through the thicket of new responsibilities and financial constraints which threaten not only the Konzerthaus but Berlin's broader cultural life.

The first London concert of Group Dynamics takes place at the Barbican (0171-638 8891) on Monday at 7.30pm with the Vienna Concentus Musicus. Nikolaus Harnoncourt and Barbara Bonney in an all-

Mr Robbins releases his Cage

How did Birmingham Royal Ballet pull off a dance coup? Nadine Meisner reports

male victim. She floors han with a spectacular high lick full into his face, ploughs into his soft underbelly with spikey, stabbing arms, then polishes him off with a quick swivel of his head between her knees. You're too gentle." Desmond Kelly, Birmingham Royal Ballet's assistant direc-tor, says. "It doesn't look as though you're tracking his

This is high impact ballet, unexpected and rather shocking. The movement is angular and alien, belonging to a closed community of deadly female insect-like predators. It might have been chorengraphed yesterday, but in fact ferume Robbins created The Cage for New York City Ballet in 1951.

Acquiring a Robbins ballet is a major achievement. He appears benign enough, a dapper 71-year-old with a white, short-clipped beard. But he has become a legend as the most elusive, most exacting individual in the business. He does not give his ballets easily, nor does he often compromise on the lengthy rehearsal times he expects.

He can afford to be difficult At various times Broadway boofer, actor, theatre director and classical dancer, the founding choreographer of NYCB is unsurpassed among living choreographers. His first piece, Funcy Free (1944), was such a success that he and his composer, Leonard Bernstein, enlarged it into a musi-cal, On the Town. He teamed up again with Bernstein for West Side Story (1957) which choreographed. He has to date created more than 50 ballets: ranging from showbiz Amerimore or less everything in

For companies prepared to accede to Robbins's conditions, the newards of staging one of his ballets are considerable. At worst, they get consummate .. craffsmanshire at best, a masterpiece. They also often find box-office bliss. In France, where the Paris Opera availability.



Jerome Robbins was unable to take rehearsals of The Cage at Birmingham. But Jean-Pierre Frohlich made an equally exacting taskmaster

Ballet presents complete evenings of his work, his name has such pulling power that the presenters of the NYCB season last autumn at first insisted on showing just Rob-bins, and no works by Balan-chine, the company's founder. But Robbins is little known

in Britain. Apart from London Contemporary Dance Theatre's brief run of his silent pany to represent him has been the Royal Ballet, with seven pieces over the years, This, though, stopped in 1988 with the final performance of Robbins's brilliant comedy The Concert. The Royal Bellet says that it has since been unable to match its rehearsal schedules to Robbins's

So BRB is filling the gap, becoming the first European company to mount The Cage: quite a coup, since it is not on the list of ballets Robbins usually hires out. Conscious of this, BRB mentioned The Cage only as a casual afterthought, during negotiations for another Robbins ballet, Fanfare (1953), to tie in with 1950s as part of the Towards the Millennium Festival. They

had to pick themselves off the ground when he agreed. They found, however, that Robbins had not gone compietely soft and was insisting on another of his famous restrictions: geographical control. Consequently you can see the hallet everywhere, except during the company's London season in May. But, as BRB's director David Bintley says: Who cares? We've got it."

The company has escaped the full Robbins experience. since he has not been personally involved in their produc-tion. It is an absence caused by conflicting dates and not, everyone stresses, by recent preventative heart surgery. His stand-in has been Jean-Pierre ter with NYCB and something of a specialist in staging

Robbins ballets. Frohlich decided on the casting by gradually weeding out dancers over four days: it is, he says, the process Robbins uses with a company he does not know. What qualities did he search for? "Dancers who are very limber but who

can also be muscularly tight, because they have to be both ery flexible and very sharp," By other accounts, Rob-

bins's selection procedures with unfamiliar companies can be a lot more draconian. Monica Mason, of the Royal Ballet, was in its first cast for Dances at a Gathering, along with Rudolf Nureyev, Lynn Dowell. "Robbins made most of us learn most of the roles. because he wanted to see everybody doing everything and then he could pick the best," she says. "And then he didn't decide on the openingnight cast until we had done the general rehearsal the day

before. It was a bit like being

auditioned."

might be ruthless, but it protects his work in an art vhere detail — the precise angle of an arm, the pulse of a phrase -- can quickly blur. That way, the continuum of his talent, from Fancy Free to his 1994 masterpiece, the limpid Bach-inspired 2 & 3 Part inventions, remains true. "He conversation, he respectfully referred to Mr Robbins, where more distant acquaintances talk of Jerry. He also said that Mr Robbins reads absolutely everything about himself. So, Mr Robbins, welcome back to Britain.

The Cage opens tonight at the Birmingham Hippodrome (0121-022 7486)

in all such fires. In Barcelona the policy is providing just £10 million of the £50 million cost.

though improvements are a

major element. When Uppark

burnt, it was not the National

Trust's insurers who finally

paid, but those of the builders

working in the house when the

fire began.

The fire at the Liceu is

believed to have started as a

result of soldering at the top of

the safety curtain, a leftover

job done in haste without

precautions. An initial prose-

cutor's report accepted there

was no criminal intent; now a

civil case is to follow to apportion responsibility. The

key in every restoration must

ARCHITECTURE: Marcus Binney reports on how Barcelona tackled the rebuilding of a famous old opera house

Spanish lessons for La Fenice

Rebuild it just as it was, said The Times, strik-ing a universal chord after fire consumed the Fenice Opera House in Venice. Yet the experience in rebuilding the Barcelona opera house, the famous Liceu, consumed by fire in January 1994, shows just how challenging such an apparently straightforward approach can be.

in Barcelona they pro claimed as it was, so it will be". But old theatres have their faults: poor backstage facilities, seats with restricted views and acoustic blackspots. ignasi de Sola-Morales, the

Deathstood Stage, The Black Hills of Dakota and the Oscar-

Mar 19: Congress Theatre, East

bourne. Tickets normally £7.50 to £14.50. Tel 01323 412000

Tickets normally £8 to £18. Tel

Apr 2 Pestival Theatre, Edin-

burgh. Tickets normally £850 to £21.50. Tel 0131-529 6000

Apr 9: His Majesty's, Aberdeen. Tickets normally 65 to 61750. Tel

Mar 25: New Victoria, Wolchs

performance at:

01203 553055

01224 641122

architect in charge at the have been created below the Licen, explains: "I was commissioned to do a reconstruction but I have moved towards an historical restoration of the auditorium surrounded by a completely new structure.

the London theatrical consultants who are advising him, says: "Redesign creates a new full-size sidestage at stage left. By digging down 16 metres, two other full-size sidestages

als. They are getting an enlarged, fully-powered fly tower. Before it was full of timber and hemp ropes that's one reason why it burnt

"It's hard to believe, but all the scenery had to be brought in through a bookshop in the Ramblas," he says.

The Liceu, like many other historic buildings, had caught fire just as a major renovation neared completion. Built in 1847, it had burnt out once before in 1861, and was immediately reconstructed. Hauntingly, the views of the gutted interior after the two fires were almost identical, showing the horseshoe wall of the auditorium virtually intact.

They kept it in 1861. This time they have scooped out the whole site, leaving little more than the handsome entrance block in the Ramblas where the foyers survived the fire.

Sola-Morales explains: The Liceu had boxes on all levels, so there were hundreds of openings. After the 1961 fire they changed the hones and moved the doorways, We needed to adjust them again."

The Licen was famous for the small salons behind the boxes, lovingly furnished and decorated by the owners over many years. Though devastated, some of these salons survived to an unexpected degree, as photographs show: plasterwork, mirrors and gilt console tables. But the owners had no money to restore them, and the theatre has been transferred to the State and is being restored with public money.

reinstated, the salons are not. How could one justify the creation of private space with public money? Sola-Morales asks. But I had a lot of complaints. The owners would say. You don't understand, Wagner operas are very long and boring. We have to have somewhere to escape'."

So while the boxes are being



The Licen in Barcelona is to mix redesign with restoration

Sola-Morales explains the logic of further changes. "The boxes on the second tier were a disaster, bad views and poor acoustics. Now there will be open rows of seats and this will be one of the best places to

The boxes closest to the proscenium arch are angled back to the audience, so only half the stage is visible. "Yet they are a favourite place for many people," says Sola-Morales. And now there is talk of resiting the royal box from the centre to the side, to provide

better access. Despite the ferocity of the fire a lot of detail was salvaged. Sola-Morales points to a row of cast-iron seats in the corridor outside his office. "People said that I wouldn't find the craftsmen. But they exist and we will have models done to check the quality of every element."

More contentious is the treatment of the auditorium ceiling, a ravishing composition of gilt omamental plasterwork inset with painted canvases. "It is one thing to reproduce ornament, another to copy paintings; the results can be quite kitsch," says Sola-Morales.

"Besides, the roof of the auditorium is one of the most technical areas of a contemporary opera house. To provide change the character of the ceiling and, he concedes, "this is the part the conservatives

most dislike". Rob Harris of Arup Acousties, who is advising the Spanish acoustic engineers, says: The trick is to make the lighting bridge fulfil both an acoustic and a structural function. By tilting the ceiling above we can get better distribution of sound to the boxes." Insurance is a crucial factor

be for the main contractor to have insurance covering everyone working on the site. reopen the Liceu in 1997, in time for the 150th anniversary. but the first season is now planned for the autumn of

Will the Fenice be drawn into making such wide-ranging improvements? "There's no way, unless they build out over the canal. I doubt if they 11 even be allowed to raise the fly tower," says Brett. Many of the Fenice's admirers will be mightily relieved.

Right royal opera



THE Royal Opera's Ring cycle, conducted by Bernard Haitink and directed by Richard Jones, with designs by Nigel Lowery, reached new heights with Siegfried last autumn. Now Wagner's story commutes, with Götterdämmerung. Anne Evans, a superb Brümnhilde in Siegfried. sings the role for the first time in this production, while Wolfgang Fassler makes his

debut as Siegfried.

Theatre Club members can buy two tickets (normally £29 to £140) for the price of one for the performances at the Royal Opera House, Covent Garden, on Saturday (4pm), conducted by Haitink, and next Tuesday (430pm), conducted by Jun Markl. To book, telephone 0171-304 4000 and quote the reference GOTT

LONDON Almeida Theatre Feb 28-March 2

• IN AN imagined 1953. Hitler is still alive and Mussolini's son rules Italy. Patrick Marber directs Craig Raine's sexually explosive and darkly comic version of Racine's great French classic, Andromache, Club members. can buy two seats (normally up to £16.50) for £19.53 for Mon-Fri evening performances and the Saturday matinee. Tel 0171-359 4404

GLASGEW Theatre Royal Mar 7

CLUB members are in vited to the opening night of Scottish Ballet's spring sea-son, a double bill featuring La Sylphide and the world premiere of A Fond Kiss, a new one-act ballet set to music by Stravinsky, by the company's resident choreographer, Mark Baldwin, Two stalls tickets for the price of one (normally £10 to £21). Tel 0141-332 9000

GEMMA CRAVEN is the · Apr 23: Empire Theatre Liverpool. Tickets normally £10 to £1£50. Tel 0151-709 1555 irrepressible rootin', tootin' gun-siingin' armboy Calamity Jame and Stephen McCarm her reluc-Apr 29: Foturist Theatre, Scar tent romantic Wild Bill Hickock in this fabulous musical, featur-ing such celebrated hits as The Deadwood State. The Black

E13. Tel 01723 374500 May & Apollo Theatre Oxford ts normally 66.50 to E/4.50. Tel 01865 244544 May 13: Alexandra Thea

borough. Tickers normally £9 to

winning Secret Love. Club mem-bers can buy two sickets for the price of one to the opening night Birmingham. Tickets normally May 21: Sadler's Wells, London Feb 28: Seigrade Theatre, Coventry, Tickets normally El3, Tel Tickets normally £7.50 to £22.50. Tel 0171-713 6000

Jan 17: Pavilion, Bournemouth Tickets normally £9.50 to £14.50. Tel 01202 297297 Jan 24: Grand Theatre, Leeds Tickets normally £7.50 to £18.50. Tel 0113-245 9351

Jul 1: Palace Theatre, Man ter. Tickets normally Ell to El9.50. Tel 0161-242 2503 Jul & Theatre Royal, Newcastle. Tickets normally £12 to £21. Tel 0191-232.2061

TO BOOK, please phone the listed number during normal office hours. The price printed on the ficket you receive will be the special price regotiated by the Theatre Chib. There may be a

transaction charge to cover postage. TO JOTN the Theorie Club either send a cheque for £12.50, made payable to The Theatre Club, together with your name, address and telephone number to The Theatre Club, P.O. Box 2154.

Colchester CO2 SH, or telephone 01200 191737 using your credit

Sunday 3 March 4,00pm PLEASE NOTE START TIME Barbican Celebrity

Recital Steven Isserlis

Olli Mustonen Works by Martinů, Sibelius, Janáček, Bloch

and Shostakovich

26 £10 £14 £18

Barbican Centre 0171 638 8891

CHOICE I

A new Tennessee Williams staging is previewed in Glasgow VENUE: From tonight

TODAY'S CHOICE

A daily guide to arts

The Cage becomes the first of his works to enter Birmingham Royal Bellet's repertore See leature, page

Hippodrama, Hurst Street (0121-622 7486) Tonghi, 7 30pm, Thurs, 2pm and 7 30pm (5)

GLASGOW Eften Shosan opens the first of two plays at the Cazens the week, playing the valle of an entst with probleme in Tennesson Williams's in the Bar of a Tokyo Hotel Philip Privise directs and designs Marabou Stark Wilgithman officers of the property of the start of the star

(Transpotting) Welsh feam up again for a rate of a hospital-indoen football hooligan recalling an abused and abusing past

abusing past Citizana, Gorbels (0141-429 0020) Tokyo Free preview tonight, 7:30pm, opens tomorrow, 7:30pm. Then Tue-Sat, 7:30pm. Merabou (2) Free preview tomorrow and opens Fri, schedule as

Gerrick, Chering Cross Road, WC2 (0171-494 5085) Mon-Fri, 7 45pm; Sal, 8 15pm, mals Wed, 2 30pm, Sal, 5pm.

TI JOSEPH AND THE ANACOMIT TECHNICOLOR DREAMCOMT. Philip Scholaid, plays the lad with the graity

TECHNICOLOR DREAMCOAT. Philip Scholield, plays the led with the preity jigder in a mine-week revival of the first Lloyd Webber, Price creation Labatiff's Apolille, Outen Caroline Street, Harmmerms. We (0171–116. 8082) Tue-Sat, 7 Süpm; metri Thurs and Sat. 3pm.

THE LONG AND THE SHORT
AND THE TALL Mark Aries and But
Nutsuk in moved of Willia Half's
celebrated purgle-was drawns, produced

Counterpoint Theatre Co. ary St Mertin's Lane, WC2 (0171-

369 1730) Tonight-Set, Spm; mets Thurs, 3pm and Sal. 5pm Final week.

PRESENT LAUGHTER Pow Bowles is Gary Essending in Noil

mpiled by Kris Anderson



Susan Hampshire hits Guildford in the touring **Black Chiffon** VENUE: All this week at the Yvonne Arnaud

E CHOICE 2

THE



■ CHOICE 3

his first British shows since 1992 YOUNG ARTS

Cross a Unicom with a Magic Flute, and the result will keep the children entranced for hours

LONDON

BOPRANCE AT THE WIGHORE introduces another Russian Jinger Introduces another Russian Jinger tonght, the soprano Notalia Diadico, as part of the Wigmore's song recital sense liya keary is the period for a programme of works the Mandal

A TALENT TO AMUSE: Opening night for an affectionale collage of the words and music of Noal Conead, brought to she with skillut, sometimes mischerous charm, by Poter Greenwell, Couser's accompanie for on wash Vesidentile, Shand, WCZ (0171-254 6499) Tonghi, 7pm Then Mon-Sat, 8pm mats Wed and Sat, 3pm

performances here for Adner Lazier, Shota Gish and Sophie Thompson in an excellent staging of Sondhern's titlersweet musical on mamage, pro and contra. Transferring to the Albery. Downer Viside Lazier. Street, 487 2 0273 289 1129 1 Constri-Set.

THEATRE GUIDE Sharon Gless play unaitached New Yorkers whiring towards each other in

comedy Biologuel, Shaftesbury Avenue, W1 (0171-494 5065) Mon-Fri Spirr, Set, 8.15pm, mets Thurs 3pm, Sat 5pm. CILES ENFANCE DU PARACIS Helen McCrory, Joseph Fie Graves in Simon Callow's Graves in Simon Callows: disappointing and long (4 and a half hours) version of the firm. Barbleau, Silk Steet. EC2 (0171-638 6991). Tonight-Set, 7 15pm, mais Thur and Sat. 2pm, Final performances. In THE GLASS MENAGEROE San's Mendes's radiant production Zoé Wanamaker and Clare Skinner play mother and daughter. Ben Walden is

Comedy, Parton Street, SW1 (0171-369 1731) Mon-Sat. 7.30pm; Sat. 3pm. GULP FICTION. Eddle Nester and Relation Gree (from The Passe), play two er-cons strangely named Reggle and Roznie, who find life back in the East End a tough challenge after the easy years behind bars. Theorite Royal, Gerry Rullies Square, Stratford, £15 (0181-534 0310) Tue-Sat. Stratford, £15 (0181-534 0310) Tue-Sat.

Daidy's gowerld production with Necholas Woodbean as the all-knowing Inspector, and Edward Peel and Susan Engal as the pillars of society

CASINO (18) Scornase's spic of Lav Vegas in the 1970s; glorious background detest, but the human drama Reps. With Robert De Nino. Sheron Some and José Peso.

 Berbican (2) (0171-638 8891)
 Clapham Picture House (0171-498 3223 Empire (2) (0171-437 1234) (2) MCM Baker Street (0171-835 9773)
 Puthase Roset (0171-873 638)
 Trecader (2) (0171-727 6705)
 Others (2) (0171-727 6705)
 Others (2) (0171-727 6705)
 Others (2) (0171-727 6705)
 Rico (0171-254 6577) Ritry (0171-737 121) UCI Whiteleys (2) (0171-732 3332)
 CAMPE AND BRINGERH CV. II.

SENSE AND SENSIBILITY (U): Emma Thompson's radiant adaptation Jane Austen's sarly novel, who Thompson and Kee Weight as seams wan offerent approaches to remone

Director, Ang Lie Givelsee (0171-351 3742) Curzone: Maytair (0171-389 1720) West End (0171-369 1722) Odean Kensington

436 3388)

TIALINSPOTTING (10)-Acressed took at juriee life, from invine Welch's novel, made by the Shellow Grave toom. With Event McCinegor and Even Birermer. Director, Darry Boyle.
Clephamy Picture House (0171-498 3323) Galbe () (0171-727 4043) MGM Fulthern Road () (0171-828 3323) Galbe () (0171-839 1527)
Tottenham Court Road () (171-838 6148) Odeon Switsa Cottage (01426 914098) Ribby (0171-737 2121)
Screen/Belier Street () (171-835 2772)

NEW RELEASES

CINEMA GUIDE

Boutes is Gary Essentine or more Coward a enaggerated self-portrait of a star pursued by devotines and love-histing every minute of it. Richard Olivian

films in London and (where indicated with the symbol +) on release scores the southy

Bereen/Green (0171-226 3520) UCI Whiteleys (5) (0171-762 3332) Wenne (5) (0171-437 4343) CURRENT BED OF ROSES (PG) Witing, whimscal romanos set in a fary-tale Now York, with Mary Stuart Masterson and Crystein Show Director, Microsof

 DANGEROUS MEEDS (15):
Michelle Phather brings hope to an innectity school. Predictable, rose-tinled drams director, John N. Smith.
Observed Memory. Q0 (01426 914096)

 ADMINITY INVESTIGATION (15); The Yakuza ward the contents of Kaunu Reeves's head Falunise folly from cyberpunk author William Gibson Director, Robert Longo, Odeon West Emil (01426 915574) + JUNANUI (PG): Exhibiting fomp about a reministrating company of the comes to her Wirn Rober Williams. Director, Joe Johnston. Ctaphan Picture House (0171-498 2021) Edition (0171-325 9085) Chelses (0171-325 9085)

ical stars the 19-year-old hitheric Wilde as his mum. Des McAnuff, co-writer of the book, directs. Shadheebury, Shelbesbury, Shelbesbury Anne Angelein, WC2 (01.71-379 5389). Note previewing Bpm; mais Wed and Sst. 3pm. Opens Mer 5, 7pm Mar 4 all proceeds to Teetrage Cancer Frust (01.71-436 2877) [6]

+ A LITTLE PROMISES (U)

icolas for Nessie na dula, harmiese adventure. With Joely Richardson Director, John Handerson. Michael (0171-352 5006) Trecaders & (0171-352 5006) Trecaders & (0171-792 3332) Witten & (0171-437 4343)

OTHELLO (12)* Leurence Psinburne as the jesticus Moor, Kenneth Branagh es the schemming lago. Oliver Parker's leely version for general audiences Barblaces (0.1426-915353)
Kennethgerer (0.1426-915353)
Kennethgerer (0.1426-914263) Research (0.1426 ULYSSET GAZE (PG). Porkretus epic with strieng moments from Green master Theo Angelopoulos, with Hanvey Kettel as a film-matter journeying through the Ballants. Lumbers (1171-803 069) | Pressal (0171-807 8402) Witter (0171-707 2121)

on the eve of her son's wedding, in Lesley Storm's termous drama black Chiffon Proting Armend, Methods, (01483) MANUFACTOR The Boss & buck Bruce Springelsen returns for his first Brutes Springelsen returns for his first British shows since 1992, recast as a humble fall singer and amed with his accusing guitar, harmonica, and songs drawn from The Ghact of Tom-Joad Expost too in hear his Oscan-nominated contribution to the film Dead Literaturius.

Man widery. Apollo (j. 10161-242 3560), longht. Borr, then Bireningham, Symphony Hall B) (0121-212 3333), Thurs: Newcoulds, City Hat (0191-251 2606), Set, Edinburgh, Pleyhouse (2) (0131-557 2590), Sun. in Lordon in April

LONDON GALLERIES British Museum; Insugar from the Western Lake: revival of colour print in contemporary China (0171-636 1956) Hanyward Spellound: Art and Film (071-938 3146) Leighton House: At Home with Constable's Comfetch (0171-622 3318). National Gellery: At Home with Constable's Comfetch (0171-747 3985). National Portrait Gellery: The Room in View (0171-936 0055). Royal Academy; Frederic Leighton (0171-439 7430). V & At The Leighton Frencos; San Lorenzo Sansaranta Stadio (0171-938 6300).

directs, Caroline Langrishe and Deborah Cirem co-star. Aldwych, The Aldwych, WC2 (0171-379 3367) Man-Saz, Spin; mets Thurs,

3cm and Set, 4pm E House full, retarns only Some seets available Seets at all prices

D Nestern, Bronkers Stockholm's smesh ht of 1994; Seg Larsson's "viciously comic" play about sexual tensions-between three sisters.

gatual tensions-between three assites, and their boykmends David Fair directs, for the Galle Biennale Nikolei Kolyeda's The Oginsid Polonaisis opens at Spin, Galle, 11 Perihandije Road, W11 (0171-229 0706). Opens bongili, Tiprii, Their Mon-Sat, Tiprii, Until Mar 21; El SKYLIGHT Michael Gambon and Lie Williams in David Hore's dramatization of society's conflicts in the form of a probly reunion between

A TOWNS FOR FOUNDAMENT AND

uninown Paul Keating as the deat, dumb and blind pinball wastd, welt für Wilde as his murn. Das McAnult, op-

Pulham Roed (2) (0171-370 2235) Odeons: Kensington (01426 914665) Service (01425 914601) Service Cottage (01426 914601) Service Cottage (01426 914696) UCI William (01426 914696) UCI

Harvelous rendering of the chicken's Laude, and Least harm as the boarding school get plunged from riches to rags Director. Alterna Custom (CIT) 22 5099 Trocandero (3) (0171-32 3332) Werner (3) (0171-32 3332) Werner (3) (0171-337 4345)

■ LOCH NESS (PG): Ted Darson

(long ago, first with the longforgotten Kult, then with the OTHELLO (12): Laurence Pahisure xty) and as a solo singer-songwriter, Paul Brady has won the luxury of a healthy perspective on the vagaries of fame and fortune. "Here's a song which my good friend Bonnie Kaitt persuaded me to let her release before I did," he said of his opening number, Luck of the Draw, title track of the triumphant, Grammy-re-

The Boss is back: Springsteen plays



Opera as high-tech fable? Helen Gould on an old art form refashioned for children

Mozart for the Madonna age

ould a new genera-tion be coaxed into Mozart via the inforway? That seems to be the aim of the Unicorn Arts Theatre. The London-based children's theatre is touring Britain with an updated children's version of The Magic Flute. But this is beloved by opera fans: rather, a high-tech rave featuring rock, mobile phones and the Internet. Mozart for the Madonna age.

The Queen of the Night is a peroxide-blonde pop star. Papageno her Birminghamborn roadie and Tamino a journalist on the hunt for an exposé. Sarastro, a greedy media mogul turns into an eco-warrior with a mission to save the planet from global warming, rescue the rainforest and promote peace, love and harmony. The magic flute itself has been replaced by a harmonica, and Papageno and Tamino woo their sweethearts on a magic laptop computer and mobile phone.

The libretto has been radically rewritten to include such anachronisms as "You can stuff it up your jumper, the whole thing scares me stiff and Just the hardware gets-you nowhere, you must find the secret power" - more like Microsoft than Mozart.

It may be a far cry from the original, but children love it.
Nine-year-old Lily, from the
City of London School for
Girls; enthused: "This was all
modern, but I didn't mind because I think it was better." Her classmate, Alice, nine, said: "I would like to see that opera again, and other ones like it." This reaction is exactly what

THIS far into a respected career both as a band member

warded LP she released in

MISS SAIGON

Richard Williams, the Unicorn's artistic director, is aiming for with a series of shows entitled "Introducing Young Audiences to the Classics". In his five years at the Unicorn, he has produced children's versions of such heavyweights as Brecht's The Caucasian Chalk Circle, The Tempest,



and whole extracts of the Bard's preatest hits, in the form of Shakespeares. Apprentice, a compilation seen That raised the possibility

of doing well-known adult texts in a child-friendly fashion," Williams said. seemed we had unearthed a

"Having done quite a lot of literary classics, I thought we could strike out into another field: opera. I sat down and thought. How would it be if we did the Queen of the Night as Madonna?"

Whatever changes, he makes, the basic storyline and music remain the same. Williams's wife, the pianist Joanna MacGregor, has arranged and supervised the musical adaptation of The Magic: Flute, scrupulously leeping all the big tunes intact.

give a full-blooded account of the piece. There is no point in doing an adaptation which is so changed that you end up with something that cannot be recognised as the original," he explains. But you cannot expect to convert any child so that suddenly they want to read the whole of Shakespeare or hear all of Mozart's operas. i hope to set up something that will echo later on, so that the

when they are taken to see it thearre is the easier art form, R may prove a successful not realise that there is not

tactic, given that the show is touring to towns where children may not, ordinarily, have much access to the classics. But are children of today incapable of enjoying pure "But Williams doesn't feel the and unadulistated Mozart in slightest bit guilty about his less it is transformed into the

style of a 20th-century rock opera? Many other British opera companies including Opera North and the Royal Opera, have successfully introduced traditional works to children, without changing a note. And Pauline Tambling. the Royal Opera House's head of education, has her own ideas about bringing opera to children: "Updating is meant to be about access and relevance. But to attract a new audience, I don't think it's

not realise that there is a lot of drama in music. Children let the music speak for itself. You do not necessarily need tricks of direction to make them understand." _.

slightest bit guilty about his revamp. The whole notion that there is one authentic. golden way of doing Shake-speare or Mozert is nonsense." he says. "I don't think Mozart would have the slightest bit of

difficulty with it.

His version of The Magic.

Finte certainty seems apt at a time when, posside the theatre. coo-warriors light battles with road-builders, rock stars live like queens and media mogula: like demi-gods

The Magic Fluis continues its tour at the Rosem Theory, Spin don, this week, then the Wycombe Swan, High Wycombe (March 5-9)

He also sings the songs

1991. "Er, it went on to sell over five million copies..." And particularly where a detailing such a twist of fate should give heart to the 48-year-old singer

at this particular functure.

Spirits Colliding, an album from last autumn, achieved sales, and subsequently he has found himself let go by his previous record label. Mercury. Yet, encouraged by his success as a supplier of strong material for other artists -

Paul Brady Jazz Café, NWI

Paul Young, Phil Collins, Art Gartunkel and Time Turner among them — several other companies are said to be showing an interest in signing him. Rightly too, for he of the ebb and flow of personal. relationships is concerned. been his socially inspired ma-

terial: Marriage Made In Hollywood, featured here during Monday's first of Jour successive Jazz Cafe appearances, is enjoyable enough but only tells us what we already know about the rapacious nature of the American media.

Far more affecting was a vintage Blady string Nothing But the Same Old Story, with its lyric; telling of the Irish experience on a British mainhis countrymen and women as potential terrorists, made Less compelling of late has newly pertinent by the recent seen his socially inspired materials subacks in the peace process. it was at moments such as this, when he sounded angry rather than mellow, that the uncommitted listener got a sense of why the singer retains such a devoted following.

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Using your excellent secretarial skills you will be supporting a dynamic European Director in a very involving role. German would be useful for liaising with foreign clients, as would an ability to get involved in presentations using Powerpoint, and a social outlook for attending client functions. An excellent and progressive working environment is just part of this superb package. 70/55. Please telephone 0171 628 9529.

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This international first of diamond traders have immaculate offices where you'll need of least 80wpm shorthand, 60wpm W4W, Powerpoint & Excel. £340.00+pw

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If you are interested and feel you have the necessary skills please write eaclosing your current curriculum vitae and salery details to Liz Tilbrook, Laura Ashley Ltd, 150 Bath Road, Maidenhead, Berkshire, SL6 4YS by no later than Thorsday 7th March 1996. Please easure you provide a daytime telephone contact number.

Interviews will be held on Wednesday 13th March at our offices in Fulham.



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A new post created specifically to support the CEO in optimising the group's business performance. Working within a superbly refurbished Georgian building located in Brighton the ideal candidate aged 30-40 will be degree qualified, dynamic, intelligent, secretarially skilled and familiar with multi-national environments, PR/Marketing background preferred. The group specialises in the supply of IT Human Resource consultancy with offices in UK. USA and Australia. With a T/O of £50m, the group's expansive plans are an ideal platform for career progression for the right candidate. Salary in line with experience for this key role within the group. Forward your CV quoting ref. no. GL33 to Eurolink Group Pic, Blenheim House, 56 Old Steine, Brighton BN1 1NH Tel: 01273 202316 Fax: 01273 205614

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three years' relevant experience and be proficient in using Word for Windows, have a typing speed of 60 wom, plus audio and minute taking ability. You should also be computer literate. For an Information pack, please telephone 0171-937 8144 (24-hour answerphone) quoting Ref:

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Salary around £16-17K,
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Required for Associate and team in City based firm of Chartered Surveyors with good skills and experience of WP 64W and Excel.

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The Chief Executive of an international science and technology company which is one of the markevlenders in its field is looking for a PA who is well established at sensor level. This is a demanding role requiring the ability to manage a complex diary, the majority of his correspondence and to take decisions on his behalf.

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Angele Moriener is an equal opportunities of All applicants are positively released Angela Mortimer

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Head of Global Markets department requires Senior PA with good shorthand. Lots of telepho-lizison, Busy environment requires calm, collect approach. Six week assignments.

Pro-active, organised PA is required for consoling Director of Personnel covering maternity leave for 3-4 months. MS Word is essential as in the ability

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For further information call Trisks Brooks or Sarah Martin on 0171 437 9411 Centre Point Agy.

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Absolutely charming dynamic banker in his early 30's seeks a highly educated P.A. who has experience working in a pressurised findhold environment and who has a good work record. You will prepare and attend presentations and seminars, and liaise with senior personnel in London's leading banks. As the first line of defence, you'll be relied upon for your judgement, diplomacy, and tact. This is a superb opportunity for an intelligent and professional PA to realise their abilities in a challenging and involved role. Age 25 yrs + and min 'A'

For further information and an interview please centect Erika or Sophie on 0171-480-7506 or by fax on 0171-480 5467 at A A Apointments (Rec Cons.).

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£15,000 + Benefits

Mercuri Urval is a well-known remaining calm at all times, you will international. Human Resources need to be well organised and self-consultancy providing support to a disciplined. It is essential you have the confidence to broad spectrum of companies at senior.

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We are searching for a very special person. Working for 2 or 3 consultants in this busy office of 20 people, this interesting and demanding position requires the ability to work under pressure and show initiative. As well as

it is essential you have the continuence to learn to administer psychometric tools to a wide variety of candidates. You must have Windows and Spreadsheet skills and audio/copy typing speeds of at least 60 wpm. It is unlikely that you will succeed unless educated to A level standard.

essue and show inflative, as well as to James Mackein Brennage, many Please write, eachosing i last CV, to James Mackein Brennage, many Urval, Spencer Rosse, 28 Grove Hill Road, Starrow, Middlesex Hall SEN, Urval, Spencer Rosse, 28 Grove Hill Road, Starrow, Middlesex Hall SEN, Tal. 0181 863 8466, Farr 0181 861 1978, quoting reference DESPICE/96.

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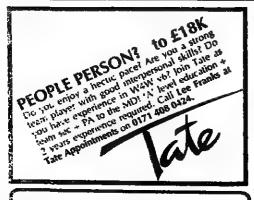
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Closing date for applications 13th March No agencies/previous applicants need not apply.

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is there anybody out there who is London based, a non-smoker and who wants to work as a member of a happy team in a small brokerage firm in the Holisom Circus area?

need somebody who is good natured with total integrity, completely trustworthy and educated to 'A' level standard. Good track record essential Word for Windows, mumeracy, Pitman S/H 100wpm required. Aged 26-36.

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Must be experienced PA, computer Eterate (WP6.0 +
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You'll play a part in their continued success, providing secretarial and PA support to the Managing Director, arranging all UK and overseas travel, organising conference calls, and maintaining diaries and filing systems.

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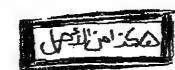
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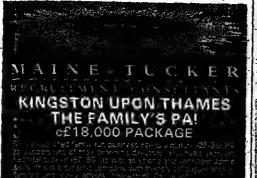
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A race opportunity but arisen within one of the mon pressigious City Financial Institutions to work on a one to one basis for the successful Read of Lisw and Compliance. This role will include both business and personal secretarial matters og taking dicustion, stranging travel, meetings and running expands Additional elements will include the personnel and travel arrangement coordination for the whole department which is an interesting and involving part of the role, Experience in bushing and/or legal and skills of 50/60/WP/antile essential. Age: 30-50. Finance all Chaire Ashley on \$1.73-390.



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This is an ideal opportunity for an individual with A-Levelt or a Degree who is seeking a see/asim position with pursuanced prospects. In a wiried team role at this blue chip company year will maintain a database, produce spreadsheets and presentations, organize dient events and get involved in projects. You should be numeruse, self-motivated and enjoy using year initiative. Knowledge of World for Windows and a spreadsheet package are essential, DTP advantageous. Experience of working is a commercial environment is required. Age 22-32.

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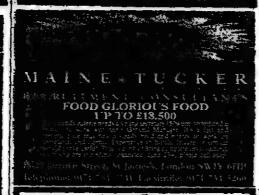
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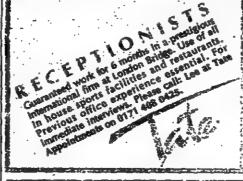
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Atherton and Carling face fiendish tests of leadership

he laboratory of sport has come up with another of its macabre experiments. As usual the experiment has been elegantly contrived and. as usual, the principal technique is stress. After the weekend we will all know just a little bit more about leadership than we did before.

The experiment is formally divided into two parts; both are designed to show (a) the effect of leadership on a stress-filled team and (b) the effect of stress on a crisis-torn leader. Part one comes on Saturday as England play Scotland at rugby union; part two comes on Sunday as the England cricketers take on Pakistan.

Will Carling, the rugby captain, knows about crises of leadership in Edinburgh. The last time he faced

with England and Scotland both playing for the grand slam. Engand, blown up with hubris, had a kickable penalty, and Carling duly called up his kicker, Simon

But the forwards, drunk with the peripheral pleasures of their private head-butting match with the Scottish pack, suggested demanded - that they go for the try. Carling hesitated, then capitulated. He lost his authority, he lost the match, and the brief golden age of England rugby was forever tarnished as a result.

Now Scotland, in a triumphant season, play for the grand slam. England could still win the triple crown, which a short while ago would have been miracle enough. But expectations are higher these days. This year, the team has

ling will not have to worry about bris-charged team-mates. Rather, he fronts a team that looks lost, uncertain of its identity. When things turn against England on Saturday - and they will - the team will turn to Carling. Carling failed his last great experiment in Murrayfield. The next one looks

But it seems that Michael Atherton, the cricket captain, has it still tougher. He has been leading by example of late. His poor batting has been followed slavishly by most of his team. Nothing reflects corporate will in cricket so much as fielding. The contrast between English fielding (woeful) and South African fielding (brilliant) rammed home this point.

The problem with our team



now is simply an underlying lack of confidence, and there is only a certain amount that a captain can do to cure it." Perhaps in that single sentence Atherton has revealed his limitations 's a captain; as a leader.

A sad head-wag, a quiet determination to lift his own form — what else can a chap do? Well, some of his predecessors as England captain might have come in with something. Michael Brearley would have had a brilliant idea or two, and sometimes his brilliant ideas worked. Tony Greig would merely have gone berserk, but sometimes that worked, too. It all depends on the kind of person you are, and it is not really in anyhody's power to change that. But one feels for these poor

leaders, as they face the latest fiendish experiment set by the mad scientists. Leadership is hard enough but, these days, an English sporting leader must also be a Carling and Atherton must each bow to someone who will never drop the ball, never face Jonah Lornu or Curtly Ambrose. These are the managers, Jack Rowell and Ray Illingworth, the twin Caesars. And when the going gets tough, neither manager has any com-punction about attacking his

Rowell has played delaying tactics over Carling's appointment as captain. This week, Illingworth has been criticising Atherton's betting and field-placing. The poor lieutenants fall to the ground with a hoarse cry. "Et tu. Caesar." Or perhaps, come to think of it, it is Polonius stabbing Hamlet from behind the arras.

Both these England teams are playing well below their abilities. There is a crisis of form, a crisis of confidence in both camps. This becomes, in quick time, a crisis of leadership. It provides the most brutal possible examination of Carling and Atherton. Their decision-making, and their individual contributions, will come under ferocious scrutiny this weekend. But how can we scrutinise Rowell and Illingworth? It is not possible. That is their strength.

The dummvirate of captain and manager is supposed to be a process of sharing. With some countries, it clearly works. Leadership is a matter of power and responsibility. With England teams, the division of labour is clear: these managers have power, without the annoying distraction of responsibility, while their poor captains have responsibility with-

Britain's foremost volleyball pair must travel to Holland to practise

Dodging red tape en route to Atlanta

SO DISJOINTED is British sports administration, so frustratingly confused the legislation on funding, that the British Olympic Association will probably be sending a team to the Centenary Games in Atlanta this summer that will be almost as amateurish, in its lack of support, as some of those who went to Athens a hundred years ago.

Audrey Cooper and Amanda Glover, who, starting on Friday, will compete in the Beach Volleyball World Championships in Rio de Ja-neiro, have been fourth in two successive European champininth in world series events. against full-time professionals from the United States, Brazil and Australia.

Yet, in order to train on a sand court, the pair, spon-sored by the Racal health and safety organisation, have to go to Amsterdam. There is no court in Britain.

lf, in Rio, they maintain their ranking as thirteenth in the world. Team Racal will qualify for the Olympic tournament of 16 pairs, a com-mendable achievement.

The Crystal Palace Recreation Centre has offered the British Volleyball Association's first-ever team to gain a world ranking a site for a sand court. An inflatable tennis dome is needed for cover. That costs £60,000. The volleyball association cannot apply for a lottery grant, because that is not available for any facility owned by the Sports Council.

The absurdity of the pos-ition would be baffling to anyone not familiar with the spider's web of administration that separates British competitors from modern realities and access to facilities.

Don Anthony, doyen of volleyhall and director of the BOA's education department. is one of many dismayed at the impediments placed upon top performers. This situation ilustrates a major fault in government thinking on the lottery regulations," he said.



Cooper, left, and Glover, are fourth-best in Europe and rated No 13 in the world. They are the first British volleyball pair to gain such a ranking

Palace site be leased to the The international federation more interest than convention-volleyball association to cir- should long ago have changed al indoor voileyball. had previously been no pro-gramme at all for British Amanda's the more explosive cumvent the red tape? Team Racal has gone to the world championships, basically, on charity. They could be our first Olympic representatives ... and our last."

Cooper, 31 and Scottish, works a 40-hour week as publicity manager for Racal in Wembley. Middlesex. while attempting to prepare to represent Britain. "Racal are very supportive, and have tried to create a career path for me," she said. Glover, born in Weymouth, works as a recreation manager for Hack-

ney Council in east London. The only silly thing about beach volleyball is its name. it to sand voiley or pairs, which would help to avoid the kind of sneering that Cooper and Glover experienced from a recent BBC interviewer: "I suppose there'll be Olympic tiddly-winks next."

The pairs game is one of the most demanding of all sports. Have you ever tried running for an hour and a half on soft sand, jumping every few sec-onds to reach a ball eight feet off the ground? Not only does the sport have some of the toughest competitors, but the tacties of the pairs game, comparable with tennis doubles, involve all four players on almost every shot, it has far

"The women's game is not power dominated like the men's," Cooper said. "The ball is less often grounded, there's more variety. It's more rewarding individually, and has a nicer atmosphere."

The professional series already has its million-dollar prize-winners among the men. Any prize-money that Cooper and Glover may earn is returned to their association to help defray costs. They are in their third season as a pair. At their first foreign tournament, in 1993, they finished thirteenth and realised that they were not that far behind the

gramme at all for British wanten.

Initially, Cooper and Glover

had no coach. Throughout 1994, they worked on their own, won all British tournaments, qualified for the finals of a world series in Miami, and finished ninth. For the past 18 months, they have been coached by Vince Joyce, a former British indoor team player. Much of their training. programme is, in the absence of a proper court, devoted to weight training and running, with two nights a week spent on skills work on an indoor

"We're still learning about each other," Cooper said. "I'm

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Amanda's the more explosive one. She's six feet, the strength at the net. I'm the one scuffling and diving around at the

The pair are optimistic

about their chances of retaining their ranking this week. Cooper thinks that the Americans and Brazilians - "still the best" - are becoming worried about the challenge from below, foremost from Australia and Japan, then Germany, Italy and Holland. The Dutch have twice lost to Team Racal. "We're not far behind Germany," Cooper said. Perhaps not, even if the so-called Ministry of Sport is way behind its counterparts.

New crews may leave way clear for Oriel

A WEAKER than usual Oriel seem likely to stay at the head of a mediocre men's first division in the Oxford University Torpids, which start on the Isis today (a corres-pondent writes). The closure of the river in previous years has reduced the depth of college rowing and there is a higher than normal percent age of novices in first division

New College are running well, however, as are a well-drilled Lincoln at the top of the second division. Some strong crews at the bottom of the division, including Osler House, St Peter's, and Mert-

on, will be looking to move up. The women's divisions are even more depleted of experi-ence and Osler House, despite not fielding their characteris-tically strong crew, seem set to fend off a large but inexperi-enced New College.

Provisional starting order

Peter's II, Wachern II, Jasus II, Oriel W, Pagerit's Park, Kable III, St Benerit: Hail, Orall V, St Arme's II, St John's III, Herford III, SSCHH DINSION (Ipon): Christ Church III, New Cotlege III, Esseer III, University III, Mexicon III, Osler House II, Megodelen II, Peter's III, St Amony's Limicon II, Licky Maligase Hull III, Coppus Christi II. SEVENTH DIVISION (IE.20pm): Limion'III, Wortson III, Limione III, Sommerlie II, Jestel N, University IV, Brassmose III, Lady Mengeret, Hall W, Trinky III.

Post IV, Heavy III.

Worment:
PIRST DIVISION (4.50pm): Oeler House,
New Cobage, Somewife, Wachem, St.
Cetherine II., Crinit Church, Perstande,
Onel, University, Lady Mergaret Hall, St.
Häde, Wormsder, Sprint: Trinity, St.
Arme's Bassenose, St. John's, Jesus,
Wolfer, Lincoh, Hectori, St. Edmand Hall,
Somewife II., Cutery, Marton.
THIPD DIVISION (1.30pm): Ketole, Magdaier, Ballici, Lincoh, Esser, Cela, Hotse,
II., S. Peter's, Wachem II, New College II, St.
Hugh's, Perstande II, Lady Mergaret Hell II.
POURTH DIVISION (1.00pm): Allentine II.
Lady Mergaret Hell II.
Lady Mergaret Hell II.
Lady Mergaret Hell II.
Lady Mergaret Hell II.
Pourth Of Wiscon Proofit; Mansfeld,
Coppus Christi, Chalet Church II, Hestford II,
Magdalen II, St. Californier's II.
Lady Mergaret II.
Lady Mergaret III.

Hall offer greatest threat to **Downing**

DOWNING and Emmanuel both go for hat-tricks at the head of the men's and women's Cambridge University Lents this week, but it could be the black and white colours of Trinity Hall that finish with the honours. Hall start challengers in the men and appear to have integrated their six survivors from last year's first and second boats better than

Downing's five. In the women, Hall start third on the river, but with six of last year's first boat back on the water, have a considerable edge in experience over the challengers, Queens', Indeed, Queens', after a steady climb for men's and women's crews since they were in the relega-tion zones five years ago, may find that the only way they go is down. Crews tipped to climb include Fitzwilliam, Clare and Peterhouse in the men's and New Hall, Lady Margaret and Newnham in

Starting order

FOURTH-DAVISON (2.18cm): Churchill II., "fet & dard Teinty II. Corpus Curisti II. Hughes Hall, Wolson, Darwin, Sichney Suscess II. Hall He III. Queens' III. Megdelere III. Teinty Hall III. Queens' III. Megdelere III. Seese III. Discon III. Plothreson II. Exchange III. Discon III. Plothreson II. Exchange III. Discon III. Fisher Seese III. Calus III. Sciency Susses IV. St. Carl Seese Susses IV. St. Carl Seese Susses IV. St. Carl Seese III. Sciency Susses IV. St. Carl Seese III. Sciency Susses IV. St. Carl Seese III. Sciency Susses IV. St. Carl Seese III. Churchill IV. 1st 2. 3rd Trinity V. Stellynn III. Churchill IV. 1st 2. 3rd Trinity Hell IV. St. Edmund's II. Garton IV. St. Edmund's III. Garton IV. St. Edmund's III. Trinity Hell IV. St. Edmund's III. Garton IV.

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Women
HRST DIVISION. [3.35pm]: Emmanuel.
Cleent.; Traity Half, Jeaus, New Half,
IMEC, St Calmitten?, Meminan, Churchik,
Clem, Sidney Bussett, Christ's, Selwyn,
Griton, Pembruke, Caiss, Downing.
SECOND DIVISION (1.35pm): 1st & 3rd
Thitly, CCNJ., Megidateris, Fitzwilders, Corpus Christ, Robinson, Homerton, Jeaus II,
Wolfson, LMBC II, Emmanuel II, King's,
New Half II, Newnopm III. Peterhouse,
Selwen II, St Catherine's II.
THERD DIVISION (12.15pm): Clare II, 8t
Edmand'II, Derwin, Lusy Cavendish,
Queens' II, Sidney Sussett II, Homerton II,
Ghiton III, Trinty Half II, Calus II, 1st & 3rd
Tirrity II, Downing R, CCAT II, Robinson II,
LMBC III, Gesens' III, Griton II, CCAT III

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SUNGARD'

Coach anxious to set his sights beyond Murrayfield's glittering prize

Telfer out to raise Scotland's standard

THINK of Scottish rugby and one invariably thinks of Jim Telfer. They are synonymous. Think of Jim Telfer, and to those who do not know him. the instant image is of an ogre. treatment of players, is unable to forget that he is no longer a

As a player, he was intimidating, a trait that has endured as a coach, manager and selector, but set against that, he is also dedicated honest and straightforward, if occasionally to the point of bluntness: a stern but shrewd judge of character, a man with warmth, a dry, often self-



CHAMPIONSHIP

deprecating humour, who has given the best part of 30 years' service to Scottish rugby,

If dictatorial, he makes no apologies, expecting total com-mitment to the cause. He is a man of high principles and high expectations. Players may rail against him in pri-vate, but he has their utmost respect. His achievements demand that. He is the common thread that ties 1984, 1990 and 1996 — Scotland go for a fourth five nations championship grand slam against Eng-land at Murrayfield on Saturday - and the good and bad in between.

So how does he see himself? Everything I do. I like to do it as best I can," he said. "I am a pretty determined guy. As a get as far as I could ... same with teaching, when I moved six times to get promotion. There's a sort of doggedness about me. But I'm also quite a

What about accusations that he is an anachronism? "I. may be lots of things but the one thing I am not is out of touch with modern rugby, he said. "I always look to the future. New Zealand in the world Cup took the game to a first paid director of rugby, a page director of rugby, a page director." new dimension. That's what position from which he could



Despite his tyrannical image, Telfer has proved a shrewd judge during 30 years' service to Scottish rugby. Photograph: Marc Aspland

excites me - the evolution of the game and the ultimate performance.

Where I might be slightly out of touch is that I am 55 and most of the players are in their early to mid-20s. I have a different kind of ethics, standards. That's nothing to do with rugby, that's to do with

Of all his achievements, that as coach in 1984 was the most fulfilling, and in particular the victory over Ireland that se-cured the triple grown. He said: "I grew up being told we hadn't won the triple crown since 1938, we hadn't won the grand slam since 1925. This tremendous yoke was around the players' necks. When that disappeared, a great weight disappeared off the back of

Scottish rugby." In the aftermath of marrie he retired to become headmas-

stamp the Telfer biveprint on the Scottish game at all levels. That is the mission that continues to drive him.

And it is beginning to work. A tilt at the grand slam last season, another this, and a burgeoning pool of talent to carry Scotland forward. There is a tangible sense of collective

BRISTOL'S leading players, who met on Monday night, will try to establish within

the next three weeks their future at the club

(David Hands writes). There has been considerable optimism all season that the

club could secure the services for the

foreseeable future of such internationals as

Kyran Bracken and Arwel Thomas, but firm

"So far, I have spoken only to Arwei and

he's happy." Derek Brown, the Bristol-chairman, said yesterday. "I'll be sitting down with the rest of the international

players in the next three weeks. I'm hopeful that they will all stay."

commitment has yet to be forthcoming.

inexperienced Scots these days, fuelled by the victories over France and Ireland, and the great escape in Wales.

I think this team can only get hetter," he said. "We know that we haven't got a divine right to win and that we might not end up with anything, but whatever happens, there is a great enthusiasm for rugby in

Hull to ask players to stay

Nbc3 Kvg7 e5 Qb6+

Scotland following the World Cup and what we've done this season. It is my job to build on

What about the hype and expectation, with Scotland favourites for a fourth grand slam? "It is even greater than 1990," Telfer said. "People seem to think it's a poor England team. You don't get

Paul Hull, the Bristol captain, who concluded his career in the RAF yesterday

and seeks to become more closely involved

with the club, also sounded out the views of

Alan Sharp, Mark Regan, Simon Shaw,

Garath Archer and Martin Corry at the

Monday meeting, "It's my goal to keep the players here," Hull said. Corry must pass a

fitness test today if he is to join England A

for the match against Italy on Saturday. Stuart Davies, the Swansez No 8, is one of

ten senior internationals picked for Wales A

for their match against Ireland A on Friday.

He is one of five changes to the side beaten

by Scotland earlier this month.

southern "stockbroker They still see themselves as being superior, condescending and arrogant, but that's not just to us, it is to the whole world," he said. "They tend to think they are the masters of everything, whether it be soc-cer, cricket, rugby, economics or politics. They tend to think

such a thing. They still can produce a very good XV." Telier admits to distaste for

the nationalistic baggage that

accompanies the annual Scot-

land versus England ritual

arguing that it is only another

international, and that bigger

tests await in New Zealand

this summer. But, like many

Scots, he is irritated by what

he sees as certain traits in the

English character, particular-

ly from those in what he terms

they are the ruling class. I feel other countries resent that." If Scotland were to fulfil the hopes of a nation, how would he view it? "I see it as a stepping stone. I don't see it as the finish of anything, more

Australian selectors bow to player power

AUSTRALIA, the hosts for next month's world outdoor bowls championships, have been rapped over the knuckles for breaking the rules and conditions of the event, which will be held in Adelaide from March 18 to 31 (David Rhys Jones writes). The World Bowls Board (WBB) received several protests after Bowls Australia announced unauthorised changes to their team. Months after registering their five players, the Australian selectors dropped Cameron Curtis

and Steve Anderson for loss of form and replaced them with Trevor Morris and Kevin Walsh.

A protest on behalf of the players was lodged by the Professional Bowlers Association, whose chairman. Richard Corsie, said: "Not only is this unfair on a personal level, it affects the livelihood of professional bowlers." David Johnson, the WBB secretary, said " A jury of appeal has requested that the players should be reinstated. I understand that Bowls Australia has acceded to that request."

TV switch under review

GOLF: Michael Bonallack, secretary of the Royal and Ancient Golf Club of St Andrews, indicated yesterday that when the three-year contract with the BBC expires after the Open at Royal Lytham and St Annes from July 18 to 21 this year the R and A will consider a five-year offer from BSkyB, alleged to be worth £25 million.

Navratilova may return

lova, right, may play in her 24th consecutive Wimbledon championships this year to try to win a recordequalling twentieth title. The 39-year-old, who retired from playing full time in won the mixed doubles, her nineteenth Wimbledon title, with Jonathan Stark, of the United States, last year and Stark is keen to resume the partnership.



Jacobs seeks sixth belt

BOXING: Gary Jacobs, the former European welterweight champion from Glasgow, goes for his sixth championship belt when he meets Edwin Murilio, of Panama, the IBF inter-continental champion, at Brent Town Hall on March Jacobs then intends to challenge Patrick Charpantier, of France, to regain the European title, which he relinquished.

Guscott's boycott

RUGBY: Jerenny Guscott, the Bath and England centre, will boycott his club's cross-code challenge matches against rugby league champions Wigan. Guscott has dismissed the idea as "pointless". He told BBC Radio 5 Live: "They would thrash us at league and we would thrash them at union. I am sure someone could come up with a better idea."

Hendry opens in style

SNOOKER: Stephen Hendry, the world champion, began his attempt to capture the European Open championship the third year in succession by impressively beating Neal Foulds 5-I in Valletta, Malta yesterday, constructing breaks of 57, 38, 96 and 118 — his 34th century so far this season — in



By Robert Sheehan, bridge correspondent: On this hand from a mixed pairs event both sides made errors but South recovered well in the end-game. North/South Game Dealer East Match-pointed Pairs

VOJS73 +A8542 44 TAKE 410763 .4Q7632 4KJ109 T10954

Three Hearts Doubled, by South Lead; the four of spades East opened One Spade, West

round to North he reopend with 2NT, showing a twobled the final contract of Three Hearts. At rubber bridge that would have been too ambitious, but it was correct at pairs, where to turn a 100 point set into 200 is a big gain.
It should have been obvious to East that the four of spades lead was a singleton, but after winning the ace he switched to a trump. West played three rounds. East discarding two spades. Declarer won in dummy and successfully finessed the nine of spades. Relieved by the defence's failure to take a spade ruff, she then took her eye off the ball for a moment and threw away dummy's club on the king of spades.

replied INT and East rebid

Two Spades. When that ran

in dummy did she stop to: count her tricks. Three hearts in dummy, two spades, two diamonds and a diamond ruff only added up to

Only after cashing the king of diamonds and ruffing a spade

club was a mistake - West had produced the ace and king of trumps so East was known to hold the ace of clubs. Had she retained dummy's club. suited hand, and West dow she could now have played it inwards her king, establishing

*AQ8832. *

¥2

BAJS'

the ninth trick. the ninth trick.

The only hope now was a diamond blockage. So the declarer cashed the ace of diamonds and played a third diamond, throwing clubs from dummy. East was help-less. He tried the nine of clubs. but South rose with the king and claimed nine tricks. As the diamonds lie, there was no way East/West could avoid the endplay.

☐ For details of The Times Midland Private Banking National Bridge challenge, contact the event organisers on 0181-942 9506 or write to: Britannic Building, Beverley Way, New Malden, Surrey, KT3 4PH or fax to: 0181-942

Robert Sheehan writes on bridge Monday to Friday in Sport and in the Weekend eight. The discard of dummy's section on Saturday.

By Philip Howard

BARD PARTS GREMIO a. A disloyal retainer b. An elderly pantaloon

c. An unfortunate lover GRUMIO : a. A rebellious nobleman b. A lost son, presumed dead c. A mischievous servant

VERGES a. A parish officer b. A valiant sea-captain c. A hired soldier

LONGAVILLE . 2. A comical pirate b. A gallant attendant lord c. Ghost of a hanged murderer Answers on page 46.



17 Od4 18 Oxg7

19 Bd4+ 20 Bxc3

21 Ka1

.3 Bb8

G1 G4

h3

15 Re1 16 Bh6

19 Pd1

23 None4 24 Cle3

27 017

28 Re1

30 Oxf3

Oxg7+

White resigns

White: Neil McDonald

Black: John Richardson

4 NCL Chess and Bridge

International, February 1996

Ruy Lopez

By RAYMOND KEENE CHESS CORRESPONDENT

Dragon's Fire One of the most effective

variations against the Dragon Sicilian is the line where White opts for 9 0-0-0. In the 4 NCL Chess and Bridge International currently in progress in London Dragon experi Chris Duncan demonstrated a relatively new and unusual method of combating this dangerous line. Black sacrifice a pawn to open line against the white king and then broke through with a cascade of sacrifices.

White: P Num Black: C Duncán 4 NCL Chess and Bridge International, February 1996 Sicilian Defence

6 Nc3 9 000 Bd7 10 g4 11 Kb1 12 h4 13 No.b5 15 Nxt3 Pob2+ : Diagram of final position

8 - 第 章 5 - 第 章 4 - 第 章 立 注 注 2 <u>日</u> <u>日</u> 32 Pxd4 Black resigns Tonight at 6.30 at Simpson's in the Strand, London the Simpson's team, captained by Bob Wade OBE, takes on the RAC in the first round of the Martell Trophy. Spectators are welcome.

dxe4 No4

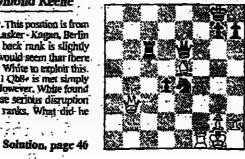
Re4 Ne2 Bd4

☐ Raymond Keene writes on chess Monday to Friday in Sport and in the Weekend section on Saturday.

By Raymond Keene

White to play. This position is from the game B. Lasker - Kagan, Berlin 1894. Black's back rank is slightly weak, but it would seem that there is no way for White in exploit this.
For example 1 Qbbr is met simply
by 1 ... Ros. However, White found a way to cause serious disruption in the black ranks. What did he

play?



BASKETBALL

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION (NEA) SIELE'S 122 Boston 118: Clain 110 Phoenic 37, LA Lakers 114 New York \$6, Dehor 93 Sacastratro 78. Successerio 78.

NATIONAL LEAGUE: Amr. First common Oldman and Rochdale 83 Mid-Susses 98; Plymouth 61 Crystal Palace 63 Solent 70 Coventry 79 Crystal Palace 107 Citham and Rochdale 62 Women: Plast division bosnich 78 London 54; Rhomada 84 Spetthorna 68; Therman Valley 41 Bommigners 102; Bimmigners 56; Phonada 84, Sheffleid 64 Nottingham 37; Tuna and Weer 58 Barting and Degenham 61

BILLIAROS

WilGAN: Strechen British Open: First round: P Gidhred (Eng) bt M hothan (India) 905-372 G Sethi (India) bt A Sayur (India) 905-372 G Sethi (India) bt A Sayur (India) 917-372. M Wildman (Eng) bt D Aucker (India) 691-288 D Causion (Eng) bt C Evertion (Wales) 513-387 S Agarwal (India) bt S Amarnath (India) 857-420 D Sheddon (Boot) bt E Hugnes (Ire) 708-416

RED STRIPE CUP (Inel day of hour): Kingston: Jamaica 222 and 340 Which-aid Islants: 162 and 192 Jamaica won by 208 num. Georgetown: Borbadoz 216-6 v Guyana Matich abandoned: Charlestown, Nevis: Leeward Islands: 236 and 175, Trindad and Tobago 317 and 156-1 Trindad and Tobago won by nine wichsis. HOCKEY

UNIVERSITY MATCH: Oxford 4 Carn WOMEN'S CLUB MATCH: Sharmood Poyeton 1

WOMEN'S COUNTY CHAMPIONSHIP:
Zone one: Humbersdo 2 Lencachre 1,
Manchestra League 0, CLC 3, Lencachre 2,
Steffield League 0, Manchester League 0,
Humbersde 3 Zones sact Nordkunbesterd
1 Durkam 0, Yorkstrie 2 Curribno 0 Norduntbesterd 3 Cumbra 0, Yorkstrie 4 Northunbesterd 1, Curribna 0, Yorkstrie 4 Northunbesterd 1, Curribna 1, Durkam 5, Zone
three: Suttoli, 2 Orderschre 2, Serkstro 9

Lincolniste 0, Saldrochre 2, Serkstro 9

Lincolniste 0, Saldrochre 1, Lincolniste 0

Staffordhus 12 Zone four: Werwickhe 6

Kent 7; Essea, 1 Sussen 6, Wannickhe 6

Kent 7; Essea, 1 Sussen 6, Wannickhe 3

Leocisterstrie 1, Essex 1 Survey 9. WOMEN'S CLUB MATCH: STREETON

ICE HOCKEY NATIONAL LEAGUE (NHL) Winniped Los Angeles 3; Colorado 3 Anahem 2; Sar Jose 7 Montreel 4

MOTOR RALLYING WINTER RALLY (Hampshee) 1, C Molors (Escort Cosworth) 64min 17mor 2, 8 HW Missubistr Galern) 64:35; 3, 1 Devels Missubistr Galern) 64:35; 3, 1 Devels DB Auto vertein stages (tale of Man) B Bettingle (W Golf) 41:49, March Here rally Lincoinstrue G Nacholfs (Stera Cosworth) 55:13, Peter Lloyd stages (South Weles): P Loyd (Meino 64) 85:00. Old Oak stages (Norlok), M Sansom (Daman 190) 40:32; Nert rally: 1 Mepham (W Golf) 5:00. Frostlotte stages (Committ), J Tarr (Talbot Surbaum) 55:41.

REAL TENNIS

MELSOURME: World championship: First eliminator metch: M Gooding (GB) 2 F Fulppeli (Aus) 2 (Filippeli lends 6-3 meiralli HOLYPORT: British Land national ama-teur chemponahio qualitying event: Qua-itying round: W Colegrave b; N Lloyd 1-6, 6-4, 6-2; A Lumeden (US) b) Q Hewitt 6-2, 6-2.

RUGBY UNION

FRENCH LEAGUE: Pool one: Toulon 19
Toulouse 13; Pepagnen 14 Grenoble 15
Roung 9 Nimes 10, Nice 31 Bayonne 8,
Agen: 22 Nantorne 21 Pool two: Bourgon 30 Brite 8, Begles-Bordeaux, 32 Castres 27;
Colomers 27 Dex 19; Pau 59 Montpellier 6,
Furnity 6 Montlemend 16;
Furnity 6 Montlemend 16;
Iffilian 41 Livorno 19; Sen Doma 24 Calvissino
10; Meano 23 Roma 14; Padove 24 L'Aquita
26; Roungo 42 Pacetrica 14;
CLUB HATCHES: Carcisslact Newtridge v
Porsycoch Tandu v Nesth
WALES A (v Instanc A at Domytorook,
Friday) R. Alones (Nesth); S. Hill (Cardiff), M
Taylor (Swenseau), M Windle (Lanelli), G
Swens (Lanelli); A Dewides (Cardiff), M
Toylor (Swenseau), M
MCSnyde (Lanelli); Caption), S. John (Lanelli)
ij A Gübbs (Newtridge), M Voyle (Newport) P. Jones (Lanelli), M Williams
Portryprodd), S. Davies (Swenseau) Replacements: C Commack (Porthyprodd), M
Boobyer (Lanelli), H Hamies (Lanelli), M

FOR THE RECORD

SPEED SKATING

Mill WAUKEE: World Cup event: Men: 5,000m: 1, R Ritsma 8+oil jerna 47 86sec. 2, K Shirahara (Japan) 5 47 99; 3, G Germin Holl 8+08 71. World Cup posadons: citual 1, Ritsma and Genru 170pts; 3, Shirahafa 131 Women: 1,500m: 1. M Shiraham 131 Women: 1,500m: 1. M Shiraham (Ger Japan) 2/03 90; 2, G Nilsmarth (Ger Japan) 2/03 90; 3, A Thomas (Holl) 2/04,58, World Cup positions: 1, Niemparn: 155; 2, M Uerhara (Japan) 123; 3, Thomas 98

Hers 2 Elis Stockbrokers Lingfield 1; I'm Hall Spots Northern 2 Ogmore Volkey Diagons 1.

PHILADE PHIA: Men's tournement: First round: J. Noville (C2) bit A. Krickesten (US) 6-0, 6-2, C. Corti (Sq) bit L. Roux (Fr) 6-7, C2, 6-2; V. Spades (US) bit P. Hearinsk (Holl) 6-0, 6-2, G. Stational (SA) bit S. Matsucka (Lapen) 6-2, 6-3, T. Carbonel (Sp) bit F. Melegere (Br) 6-2, 7-5; M. Jayon (US) bit G. Ruscalski (GB) 8-4, 1-6, 6-1. risseleste (ors) 6-4, 1-6, 6-7.
LM2: Women's summinment: First round.
N. Mackvodeva (Ulz) bit B. Reinstadler (Austra) 6-4, 6-3; K. Studentovia (Stovalika) to D van Roors (Bel) 6-4, 6-3; S. Apothiains (Bel) bit M. Schneti (Austra) 6-3, 3-5, 6-3
CROVPOMA Manifesterials

GI U van Hoost (Legi G-4, 8-3): S Appearance (Bai) bit M Schneri (Austra) 6-3, 3-6, 6-3 CROYDON: Men's extellite musters tour-informent: First round (Great Broten unless stated) O Bela (ta) bit A Footer 3-6, 6-3, 6-4, L Milegan bit T Sporice 3-6, 3-6, 7-5, C Beeches bit T Koenig (SA) 6-4, 7-5, C Sapctord bit T Wessen (Holf) 6-2, 6-1, 3 Green (Holf) bit A Kilmon' (Nazondona) 6-7, 6-4, 4-6, 2-C Haggard (SA) bit N Gould 7-5, 6-6, M Rush (Ven) bit I Gaudi (II) 6-4, 3-6, 6-1; Milegan bit S Humphries (US) 6-2, 6-2, Rush bit J Delgado 6-3, 7-6, A Richardson bit Haggard 6-3, 7-6, 1 Alven (Swe) bit Beacher 6-4, 6-4, Supsidon bit V.Jaho (Fin) 7-5, 7-5; Groom bit Gelimboru (II) 7-6, 6-3; I Heuberger (Switz) bit Nevana (II) 6-3, 7-6

(q) 63, 7-6
EASTLEIGH: Texaco women's Challeng-er tournement: First round (Great Briain unless stated) A Kerek (Gen Ibi S Smith 1-6, 7-6, 4-2, C Dhenn (Fri b) M Miller 6-1, 8-4 V Rusno-Pascual (Sp) bt P Thoren (Fin) 6-2, 7-5; N Dechy (R) bt E Tatarkova (Ukr) 7-5, DAVIS CUP Asia/Oceania Zone: Group two: Uzpekstan 5 Bahram 0.

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533, 20 Engineer of Trace,
Liquidator of the above Company
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the theory of the company
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made above addression and the coulineary does no are invited to
prove their claims in writing to
me. No further public advertigmen of invitation to prove acots

and calculations.

Dated 23rd February 1996

K. D. Goodman, F.C.A. Liquidator

Nobtable Umiled
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and Schol of February 1996.
Dated Schol of February 1996
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Ball's demand for reform of disciplinary system

AS Keith Curle faced up to the is also about to serve a twosobering prospect of a sixmatch ban for a succession of offences to be dealt with by the Football Association, Alan Ball, his Manchester City manager, called yesterday for action to be taken about what he believes is a disciplinary system gone mad.

Ball is frustrated, and angry over a series of refereeing decisions against his side recently. It is, he says, almost as though a vendetta is being waged against the club, given the incredible run of things that have gone against us". The latest action to be taken

against Curle is the most ridiculous, according to Ball. who has been enraged by an FA charge of ungentlemanly conduct against the defender, following a tangle with Faustino Asprilla, the Newcastle United forward.

Curle is already waiting for an FA hearing to decide a recent charge of misconduct. levelled by referee Paul Alcock, who claims he was verbally abused following

match ban because he has passed the 21-point disciplinary barrier. If found guilty of the other two charges, his ban could be extended to six

matches, or even more.

In particular, Ball is incensed by the swift action against Curle, especially given his belief that the England international did nothing untoward to Asprilla. "Curle is reported and the FA are there on a Sunday, on a day off. looking at the video of the game, and then he is charged immediately," he said. "But when we asked them to look at a video of the sending-off of our full back, Michael Frontzeck, they refused point

decision is so wrong."

City will defend Curle, and Francis Lee, the Maine Road chairman, insisted: "I am amazed that Keith has been charged, I don't recall him elbowing or butting anyone against Newcastle. If you can

blank. It is so galling, and so

frustrating because of the futility of it — the fact that you

can do nothing even when the

see an offence that he committed on the video the FA have looked at, then tell me because I sure as hell can't."

Ball, though, intends to take matters further, by campaigning through the League Managers' Association to have what he sees as an extreme interpretation of the rules by English referees relaxed.

from all over Europe, and it is only this country that has taken the literal letter of the law. Throughout the rest of Europe, they are not referee-ing in the same way," he said. "I'm waiting for the League Managers' Association to get

"I watch tapes of games

together and get something done for the start of next season. Something has to be done, and we have got to do it together as a body, because individually you have got no chance against the FA."

Ball would like to see teams

of officials together for a full season, so that they can have a consistent approach to each match. He would also like to see far more accountability for

Jones ready to answer call

NOWADAYS, Wimbledon's Crazy Gang exists more in spirit than body (Russell Kempson writes). Only Vinnie Jones and Andy Thorn remain from the assorted bunch of extroverts who beat Liverpool i-0 in the 1988 FA Cup final. Tonight, Jones is likely to end his recent exile and return to duty for Wimbledon in their fifth-round replay against Huddersfield Town.

That Jones, 31, is even considered is only because of suspensions being served by Chris Perry. Dean Holdsworth and Mick Harford. He has not started a game since

ENDSLEIGH INISURANCE LEAGUE: Third Evenon: Doncasier Rovers & Futham 2.

Cheisea D'Wictord 2 Minisol 1 Quetro Puri.
Regers 2, Swindon Town 0 Portzmouth.
RONTINS LEAGUE: First division: Noting-ham Forest 1 Newcastle United 0: Sheriaid United 0 Minisolaste United 3: Second division: Covenity City 1 Aston Vila 2: Mansied Town 0 York City 4: Minisolasted Town 0 York City 1 UNIDOND LEAGUE: Promor division: Bishop Auckland 1 Spernymor 2: IEAZEH NOMES LEAGUE: Dr. Mantansi City: Fourth round: Newport AFC 1 Salisbury City 2: ICSL LEAGUE: Theri division: Timo Town 0.

ICIS LEAGUE: Therd division: Tring Town 0
Harlow Town 0 (abendoned)

Hanow Town U (appendiction)
JEWSON WESSEX LEAGUE: First di-vision: Portsmouth PM 2 Whitchurch Utd 2

LIMITET SUBSEX COUNTY LEAGUE: Fire

FRENCH LEAGUE: Nos 1 Cannes 2

New Year's Day, has served a four-match ban, been stripped of his captaincy and placed on the transfer list. This year has not been kind to him.

However, with no new employers on the horizon, and with Joe Kinnear, the Wimbledon manager, short of options. Jones is back in the picture. He appeared as a late replacement in the 3-3 draw with Aston Villa on Saturday but should be in from the start this evening. "If I'm needed, I'm happy to play wherever Joe wants me to," he said.

While Jones appears to have no long-term future at Wim-

2 Juvenius 0; Palmenas 3 Portuguese 1, XV de Jau 0 Mord Minm 1
INCUTH AMERICAN OLYMPIC CAIALEY-ING TOURNAMENT: Group 8: Peru 2
Solvea 1, Uruguey 3 Paragusy 2
Group 8: Chie 0 Venezuela 0; Argantas 4
Coloritas 0
SCHOOLS MATCHES: FA Soldears
Under-19 Trophy: Ridgedanyers 4 West

MONDAY'S LATE FOOTBALL

bledon, Jason Euell's could not be more promising. Kinnear has persuaded his young striker to sign a five-year contract. Eucli may have to settle for a seat among the substitutes as Wimbledon try to capitalise on their good fortune in the first meeting. It was deep into injury-time when a goal from Efan Ekoku

> McAlpine Stadium. In the quarter-finals, the winners will take on either Grimsby Town or Chelsea. who also replay tonight. Chelsea scraped a 0-0 draw at Blundell Park but are unlikely to slip up at Stamford Bridge following their invigorating display at Southampton on

forced a 2-2 draw at the

Southampton play hosts to Swindon Town, the Endsleigh Insurance League second division leaders, the teams having drawn I-1 at the County Ground. Barry Venison returns for Southampton but Steve McMahon, Swindon's player-manager, and Paul Allen, his fellow midfield player, will both miss the game.

Nottingham Forest and Tottenham Hotspur will make a second attempt to play their fifth-round tie, the original match lasting only 15 minutes before being abandoned in a blizzard. If Ruel Fox, the Tottenham winger, is kept out by a damaged leg muscle, Ronny Rosenthal will stand in



MacDowel

Cambridge University ... 1

By Sydney Friskin

OXFORD retained the University Bowl with a comfortable victory over Cambridge in their annual hockey match at Reading yesterday, extending their sequence of successes to six.

Goals from three short corners in the first half tipped the scales in Oxford's favour. Although Cambridge briefly forced themselves back into the game with an equalising goal, they could not match the speed and skills of Oxford, whose inspiration was de-rived in midfield from MacDowel, the recipient of the individual award for

Colin Carter, the captain and deep defender, received the equivalent reward for Cambridge and, indeed, it was he who came to prominence first, after ten minutes. from the first short corner awarded to Cambridge. He took the initial hit from the line, recovered the ball in the middle of the circle and fired a shot that was deflected for a long corner.

A minute later, Oxford forced a short corner from which they opened the scoring. Three players converged on the Cambridge goal for the final thrust and Griffiths, the Oxford captain, got the final

Cambridge retaliated after 19 minutes with a counter-attack on the left flank from which Bateman forced his way through to equalise. Oxford were soon back into

their stride, with Robinson setting the pace. He converted Oxford's third short corner, in the 23rd minute, and added the third goal from a similar award a minute later. From Oxford's fifth short corner, Bell hit the target, but



Robinson, who scored twice for Oxford, surges forward. Photograph: Hugh Routledge

save by Jefferson in the Oxford goal prevented Cambridge from scoring at a short corner shortly before the

The match was virtually over in the 47th minute when an Oxford attack, initiated by Pratt, ended in Cope scoring from Robinson's pass.

With about ten minutes remaining, Cambridge had a final fling from three reluctance to shoot. A cross pass from the left by Meredith, which went begging,

bie), 8 imnes (Cundie and New College), B Raumann (Carlord and St Catherne's), N Berry (Britanhead and Blatter). CAMBBIDGE: P Printwelex (Retuilfia and Fizzvillarn); C Carter (RGS High Wysombe and Girtor, captain), R Cate (KCS Wimbladen and 8t John's), D Harrding (FGS High Wysombe and Robinson), D Churton (Weilington, College and 8t Catherdes).

Cannons keep title hopefuls guessing

BY COLIN MCQUILLAN

ICL Lion Herts know exactly what they have to do to secure their first Super Squash League title in the final fixture next week. They must take at least one rubber from the defending champions, Can-nons Club, in London.

What they do not know is which of Cannons big guns they will have to face to achieve that aim. Cannons have played most of the season without the two men who looked likely to dominate matters when the league started back in October, and have still

points of what is virtually ship team playing under the ICL Lion Herts banner. Peter Nicol, of Scotland, the

new British champion, has sustained Cannons' progress at first string, but the early departure of the former world No 2 Peter Marshall, with chronic fatigue syndrome and of the England No I. Simon Parke, with testicular cancer, left them having to fill the lower order from the junior ranks too often. Parke finishes chemotherapy this week and is anxious to

managed to stay within three resume his professional career perform at such a level in the Equitable Life Superthrough the daily demands of from March 21 and in the Leekes British Open championship that begins in Cardiff at the end of next month. He might regard a match against Chris Walker, the Lion Herts

> conversion from containment training to active competition.

RUGBY UNION اختلفت عبالط

Combined London OB v Kent (NatWest Ground, Beckent)

Abercynon v Pontypool (7 0) Under-19 much Glasgow v Edinburgh (at Ayr. 70)

WRU Midweek League

Marshall has never stopped background training through a year of competitive degeneration. He is known to be capable of producing worldclass squash for single matches, although he is not able to

but Neil Harvey, the team manager, will have noted the dismissal in straight games of Del Harris, the Lion Herts first string, by Rodney Eyles, second string, as an ideal

in the match against Ellis Stockbrokers Lingfield. For the title decider next week, Harvey is not beyond demanding one-off efforts from his ailing stars in the hope of clinching a fifth title in 12 years of top league action.

Cannons rested this week

Results, page 43

Absentees leave England coach frustrated

FROM NICHOLAS HARLING IN MOSCOW

AS IF the prospect of facing Russia in their own cavernous CSKA arena was not already inhibiting enough, England go into tonight's European Championship basketball tie without both their captain and most influential player.

Although Peter Scantlebury and Steve Bucknall played for their clubs on Sunday, and will doubtless do so again this coming weekend, neither player was on England's flight from Gatwick.

Trevor Gordon has already withdrawn, preferring to concentrate on playing for Birmingham Bullets, making it hardly surprising that Laszlo Nemeth, the national coach, wears a look of resignation long before the match

Bucknall's reason for pulling out less than 24 hours before England's departure was a groin injury, apparently aggravated playing for London Towers against Worthing Bears when he scored 24

777 景

Strang See

A second

WE THE MAN

Absent from England's last trip to these parts, to Riga in Latvia last October, he was also conspicuously missing from England's trip to Poland

Nemeth could manage only a blank stare when he was asked if he thought Bucknall would be fit enough to play for Towers in Sunday's National Cup final against Sheffield Sharks.

·However, he did talk about the effect of the withdrawals on England's chances. "This leaves me paralysed," he said. We didn't have too much of a chance before. Now what chance do we have?"

Why, the coach might also have asked, was Scantlebury. the England captain, able to play on Sunday in spite of an eye infection which prevented him turning out for England against Hungary last week.

Scantlebury had an appointment with a doctor at home yesterday, but Dr Nemeth was entitled to question why that could not have been postponed until next

In Scantlebury's regrettable absence. Nemeth has plumped for Roger Huggins. England's player of the year for 1995, to lead his country for the first time.

"I will do my best to keep them in shape," Huggins said, 🕻 although he was sensibly making no promises that Eng-land would be embarking under his leadership with a victory.

BIGLAND: N Austin (London Towers), A Gardher (London Towers), R Baker (Leopards), I Whyte (Leopards), R Shower (Leopards), R Huggins (captain, Sneineid Sharks), N Payne (Birmingham Buflets), A Statesta (Dorton Start), P Souriote



Win tickets to see Scotland v England

Tickets for the Calcutta Cup are few and far between, but readers of The Times have the exclusive opportunity to win two for the Murravfield match on Saturday.

In association with The Famous Grouse Finest Scotch Whisky, official sponsor of the Scottish rugby team. The Times is offering. besides the coveted pair of tickets, return travel to the match and two nights' accommodation at a top, family-run hotel

close to Edinburgh city centre. Fans on both sides of the border will be on the edge of their seats when Scotland take on England in the Royal Bank of Scotland International at Murrayfield. It is being billed

as the showdown of the Championships. There are also five runners-up prizes of official Scotland/The Famous Grouse training

All you have to do to win our fabulous prize, is answer a simple question and you have the chance to be on your way to see one of the most competitive games in the rughy

HOW TO ENTER

For your chance to see the Scotland v England match, phone your answer to the following question to our competition hotline. below, before midnight tonight: What was the final score in last year's

Calcutta Cup? The winner will be chosen at random from all correct entries received by the closing date. Normal Times Newspapers competition

rules apply. CHANGE GROOP Calls cost 39p per minute cheap rate and 490 at all Official Team Sponsor other times.

CALL 0839 444 505

TODAY'S FIXTURES

FA Cup Liverpool v Charlion (? 45) Notunghem Forest v Tottenham (? 45) Fifth round replays

Southampton , Sandon Wimbledon v riuddersteld (7.45) Chelsea / Grmsby (7.45) FA Carletti Premiership Endsleigh Insurance League

Bell s Scottish League סיבורייביית על St. Johnstone Transition After a Galedonian Postle

BEAZER HOMES LEAGUE: Premier di-vision. Suitabry y heapon APC Mediand division. Jude. Term y Bridghostir Pager 8 - Section. Southern division. Charlette. J. Controlling.

ICIS LEAGUE: Premier devision: Molecoy v St. Albura: Carton Trophy: Fourth round: Weadstone - Hungeford UNBOND: LEAGUE: Premier divisions REPRESENTATIVE MATCH ON BOX

UNDER-16 INTERNATIONAL France v
England (in Paris 7.45)
AVON INSURANCE COMENATION: First
divisions: Crystal Palace v (power) (at
Dutwich Harriet FC, 7.0°; Oxford Utd v
Brighten: Wintbledor v Toerenham (2.0°)
Portsmouth v Bristot Rovers (7.0°) Seond
division. Carditt v Chettenham, Bath v
Bermandham Berningham
PONTINS CENTRAL LEACURE First of vision: Bolton v Leeds (7 0) Octom v Wolverhampton (d. Schylindige PC, 7 0). Notics County v Everton (7 0). Second divisions Burliery v Blackpool (7 15). Presition v Brachord (7 0). Postponed: Aston VBs v Manchester City.

LEACURE OR WALES. The Burling Aston Aston VBs. VIMATCHESSEY City LEAGUE OF WALES: Ton Portre v Alan

SCHOUS MATCHES (hod-off 2 0 unless stated); Inter Courny under-15; Lancashiva v Chostare (at Stanley Park, Blackpool, 7 0). English Knowles Cour. Suffeit v Nerfolk (at Cornard FC, 7 30) English Snickors under-19 Trophy; Soundard College, Bratol v Swirtdon College, (at Old Georgans FC); Barry Boys v Boomin College, Strancs, Xanar, Inner London v Estier College, (at Old Salestans FC) English Goodylear under-16 Trophy; Darland High School, Chayd v Windsor High School, West Midlands (at Queenswey Stadhim, Westham, 7 30), Myers Grove, South Yorkshire v West Bridgford, Notangham (2 30) English Girls Virinto under-16 Trophy; Meadowhead Such Yorks v West Bridgford, Notangham (2 30); English Grids Virinto under-16 Trophy; Meadowhead Such Yorks v West Bridgford, Notangham (2 30); Tythumigton HS, Cheshare v Morton, Curriora (1 0) LEAGUE OF WALES: Ton Pentre v Alan Lido
FEDERATION BREWERT MORTHIERN
LEAGUE First division: Bedington Tomers
v Murton Crook v Stockon, Epidern CW v
Ferryhil League Cupt. Fourth round:
Billingham Town v Durnarr, Seatsam Rad
Star v South Shields, Whithy v Conset.
NORTH WEST COUNTED LEAGUE: Their
Cupt. Fourth round: Thackey v Adhedd
NORTH WEST COUNTED LEAGUE: First
division: Si Helens v Marke Road
BUNNETS BREWERT LEAGUE: Printing
division: Si Helens v Marke Road
BUNNETS BREWERT LEAGUE. Printing
division: Si Helens v Marke Road
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division: Si Helens v Marke Road
Stafford T v
Wolverhampton C.

Wolverhampton C
JEWSON LEAGUE. Premier division:
Sudbury witsboth.

JEWSON WESSEX LEAGUE First division: Brockertura's Lymangton Deaction
y Onisticutor's East Cowes y
Bournemouth UNLET SUSSEX COUNTY LEAGUE: First division: Alife Oak v Paacohaven and

INTERLINK EXPRESS MIDLAND FOOT-BALL ALLANCE SURSHIP V Charters WINISTORILEAD KENT LEAGUE. Find division: Dartord v Stood Groen

SNOW REPORTS

		Depth (cm) U	Co Piste	onditions Off/p	Runs to resort	Weather (5pm) *C	Last snow
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TENNIS: LTA Men's Satellite Masters (Croydon): Texaco women's Challenger THE WAS TIMES SPORTS SERVICE

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RACING

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FOOTBALL Reports and scores from the FA Cup and FA Carintg Premiership

Call 0839 555 562 Reports and scores from the Endsleigh Insurance League Call 0839 555 512

ENJOY AN 8-DAY CRICKET AND HOLIDAY PRIZE IN LAHORE WORTH £6,000

Win a trip to the World Cup final The Times, in association with Pakistan International

Airlines, is offering readers the chance to win an eight-day trip for two to the World Cup final in Lahore, with a prize worth more than £6,000. The winner of our competition, and a companion, will fly

Club Class to Lahore on March 13, courtesy of Pakistan International Airlines, and spend six nights at a top hotel, returning on March 20. The itinerary includes guided tours of the city and tickets to the final on Sunday. March 17. HOW TO ENTER

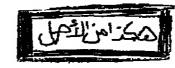
Every day until Friday, we will set a question and ask you to keep one of the letters in your answer. These letters will eventually make the name of one of the host stadiums in this year's World Cup. When the last question is published, you should phone your answer to the competition telephone number which will also appear that day.

Q3. Which country has the lowest score in World Cup history? Keep the last two letters of the country.

Q2. Which country did Mohinder Armarnath play for? Keep the first letter of your answer. QI. Who are the current World Cup holders? Keep the second letter of your answer.

Entrares should note that it is the responsibility of the weaper and companion, who must be but British passport hadders with the right of residence in the UK.

PIA Office, London 0181-741 8066



NOTTINGHAM

2.15 Court Nap. 2.45 Ebulliert Equiname. 3.15 Malawi 3.45 Dream Ride. 4.15 Storming Run. 4.45 PENROSE LAD (nap). 5.15 Cettic Park.

The Times Private Handicapper's top rating: 9.45 INDEFENCE.

GOING GOOD, GOOD TO SOFT IN PLACES (CHASE

2.15 ROYAL GAIT JUVENILE HOVICES HURDLE (\$2,453 2m) (15 runners)

8-4 Love The Elves, 4-1 Our Ranking 7-1 Royate Angela, Royat Robba, 8-1 Court Nam 14-1 Court John Indicator, 16-1 piters

1 -224 EBULLIFAT ERIBMANE 11 (BF.G.5) N Henderson 5-11-10

1 KRMG GERSEACH 119 (5) K Baley 7-11-10 ... R Desarroid

2 DARANAN 736 N Tection-Daves 7-11-4 ... C Unwellyn

4 0-33 DOUGHOS FRING 43 O Broson 7-11-4 ... U M Broman

5 DARATOT 5 C Lesson 5-11-4 ... D Lesby

6 CPT LIDWARNATHA 2815 No. E Headh 6-11-4 ... D Beacting

212 SHAPH STATE No. E Headh 6-11-4 ... D Broson

213 SHAPE SARROIN 16 D Micholson 6-11-4 ... D Byrne

3-3F GLENBROOK FORT 39 A J Milson 7-10-13 ... A Magnita

3-4F GLENBROOK FORT 39 A J Milson 7-10-13 ... Hanney

3-9F GLENBROOK FORT 39 A J FORTER 6-10-13 ... Hanney

-4 Challett Stromene 3-1 Depart, 7-2 King Girstach, 6-1 Demart, Reig. 12-1

3.15 CORBIERE NOVICES CHASE

3.45 GAYE BRIEF MOVICES HURDLE

11-4 intelligence, 7-3 inter Patriarch, 5-1 Drison Rade, 6-1 Mead Court, 6-1 Debts, 10-7 Just Bruce, 16-1 offers

4.15 WAYWARD LAD HOVICES HANDICAP CHASE

THE THE PASSEN, 17-4 Big Strand, 9-2 Portions Bridge, 5-1 others

4.45 RED RUM INTERNEDIATE OPEN NATIONAL HUNT FLAT RACE (Div I: £1,236; 2m) (15)

5.15 RED RUM INTERMEDIATE OPEN NATIONAL HUNT FLAT RACE (Div II: £1,229: 2m) (14)

9-4 Saymond Prode, 7-1 Jalapeno, Cellic Park, 8-7 Larkness, 19-1 others.

COURSE SPECIALISTS

TRAMERS: K Bailey, 10 winners from 36 numers, 27 8%, N Gasslee, 5 from 18, 27 8%; T Forster, 5 from 25, 23 1%, D Micholson, 14 from 52 22 8%; D Gasdolfo, 3 from 14, 21,4%, O Sherwood, 6 from 33, 18,2%

(£2,252: 3m 110yd) (11)

2.45 SEE YOU THEN NOVICES HURDLE

COURSE); GOOD TO SOFT, SOFT IN PLACES (HURDLES)
7AM INSPECTION

Irish put faith in Imperial Call for emotional success

Sutherland prospects for gold

Tergie Sutherland is a colourful character, but he will not thank you for saying it. Any man who can dismiss having a leg blown off in a landmine blast during the Korean war as just part of the job is never going to be guilty of blowing his own trumpet Such understatement is

partly why Sutherland is one of the most instantly recognisable and liked figures in Irish National Hunt racing.
Only partly because the 64year-old also embodies much of the humour, amiability and sheer brio that characterises

Should Imperial Call emerge from Sutherland's four-horse yard in County

Nap: KING'S GOLD (5.00 Taunton) Next best: Sudden Spin (4.50 Wetherby)

Cosk and fulfil his potential in the Cheltenham Gold Cup. there will rarely have been a more popular Festival victory. There is enormous goodwill for him and his horse, a not insubstantial fact considering he is not even Irish. That much is obvious the moment he speaks. The well-modulated iones are so deep he makes Paul Robeson sound like a

Sutherland was brought up in Peebles in the Border Country, where horses were always destined to play a large part in his life. "I was always riding ponies and I seemed to have a talent for it. My father thought I should capitalise on that gift and during the summers I was sent to a riding school in Porlock in Somerset where I spent six happy years. Dick-Hern was chief instructor there at the time and we are still close friends," he said.

After studying at Eton.

GOING: GOOD TO SOFT (SOFT IN PLACES)

3,020: 2m 4l 110yd) (10 runners)

1.50 MICKLETHWAITE HANDICAP HURDLE

THUNDERER

Sandhurst College was the tant. Well, they say assistant logical step for the young but I was really a pupil.

Sutherland, whose family had

At Newmarket Sutherland a history of soldiering. "My father, Arthur Sutherland, was commander of the Black Watch during World War I and I was commissioned into the Fifth Dragoon Guards, the

Inmiskilling," Sutherland said. Six months after arriving in Korea in 1951 Sutherland lost his left leg. "Going up a hill one of the four troops I was with tripped the wire of a landmine and set off the blast. I was the only one badly injured," he recalled.

Sutherland recovered re-markably quickly from such a shattering blow and horses became his career as well as his passion.

"I joined the trainer Geoffrey Brooke as a pupil assis-

3.20 Cumbrian Challenge

3.50 Cumbrian Rhapsody 4.20 Wad Thyme

4.50 Stidden Spin 930 and the



became friendly with Never Say Die's trainer, Joe Lawson. "He retired in 1957. He was an old gent by then, 78, but we got on very well. He suggested I take over his horses and when my father bought Carlburg Stables (where Clive Brittain now trains! I was given a good

utherland's first season in 1958 was very successful and included a Royal Ascot winner, but over the next few years he found his heart was not really in it.

"I'm more a horseman than a racegoer and I have always liked putting jumpers together. I thoroughly enjoyed my time in Newmarket and have

posited up. 10 — streament other. 8— brought closes. 8— streament for bright stream of the stream of

3.20 RELASLEY HOVICES HANDICAP CHASE (£4,500: 2m) (5 retries)

1 13234 CLABRACK CHALLENGE IS (CD.F.S.) Combaning Ltd Femely 7-12-0 L Wysr (9)
2 1-61411 LDRD DORGET 14 (D.F.S.) (LTDD) J Charlow (6-11-2 Philes S)
4 134232 CATHRESS CLAUD 30 (5) (R Secol C Pater 8-10-0 B)
5 05244 N DORGET 19 (R Williams F Harriy 7-10-0 B)
6 05244 N DORGET 19 (R Williams F Harriy 7-10-0 B)
7 05244 N DORGET 19 (R Williams F Harriy 7-10-0 B)
7 05245 N HARRI MAN 88F (GF.S) (C Code) R Wheeler 6-10-0 P Carborry

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CLIMBRIAN CHALLENGE hast chare effort. 91 and in 98 house of the sound of the place if the flowing in the grade if the flowing in 1 house of the flo

3.50 NORTHERN ELECTRIC CHARITY CHALLENGE SERIES NOVICES HURDLE (22,568: 2m) (25 numbers)

1985: COOL LUKE 6-11-11 J Callaghan (9-2) 6 Moore 18 mm

FORM FOCUS

4.50 ASKHAM BRYAN HANDICAP HURDLE (£3,020; 2m) (13 Juniers)

4. DU ASKHAM BRYAN HANDICAP HURDLE (£3,020; 2m) (13 numers)

1. 255-600 WASHEV 18F (B.C.D.F.S) (R. Hondon) S. Solings 8-11-11
2. 211365 PRECRISE BUB! 14 (D.C.S) (Cardolon Racing Goth) S. Bustons: 11-11-8 A. Bubbin-52
2. 21134-00 Bullon 39: D.C.S) (Wildowsh Bacing) M. Doos 6-11-8 T. Food 90
4. 51-14 Roben 11 (S) (R. Wildowsh Bacing) M. Doos 6-11-8 E. Callagham (6) 95
5. 21-2212 SLOOGH SWM 14 (D.R.S) (P. Parker) J. Hoston 9-11-6 E. Callagham (6) 95
6. 62-2415 Think FALLS 15 (G) (Als S. Marrel) G. Hoore 5-11-6 J. Callagham (6) 95
6. 62-2415 Think FALLS 15 (G) (Als S. Brood) S. Pallagham (7) 15
8. 12-2212 SLOOGH SWM 14 (D.R.S) (Brood) 5-11-8 J. Callagham (8) 95
9. 15-5305 ABE MEMORE 4 (G) (Als S. Brood) M.P. B. Brood M.P. Brood M.P. Brood 15
10. 22-541 CHROLE URE 11 (D.S) (Mrs. P. Harden) M. W. Escholy 5-10-10. R. Cardol SP
11. 22-541 CHROLE URE 11 (D.S) (Mrs. P. Harden) M. W. Escholy 5-10-10. R. Cardol SP
12. 462-330 SOANDA 42 (D.S) (B. Gardon) J. Bellson B.-10-3 P. R. Done 95
13. F.OGAGZ CURRENT, SPECIA 45 (B) (C. Santons) J. Escholy 5-10-4 L. L. Wyer 93
14. FORM FOCUS

FORM FOCUS

BETTINES 9-2 Sundam Spin, 5-3 Circus Line, 6-1 Current Special, 7-1 Dawn Misseon, 8-1 From; 10-1 Udars
1995: MRSTE MBLLOW G-11-10 P. Haves (11-7) Mrs. M. Broods, 15 park

SUDDEN SPIN-11 2nd 16-Drich Minis For Linck in histolicap hardle at Supplicified 120n-16-16 for 16-16 group.

Thirm: FALLS, test all of the sesson when 146 ship to United in hardle at Newtonia (20n, 1900). CARRENT SPECH 254 2nd of 16 in Administ State 110 for 10 pand to lample, 2008/SEM 1194 384 in 1944 1496. Selection: CURRENT SPECH 1496.

FORM FOCUS

FORM FOCUS

good friends there still but my mother had this place in Cork and I moved there 33 years ago." He has never left and, in an area where hunting and Imperial Call will not be

point-to-pointing is a religion, he found his spiritual home. Sutherland modestly describes himself as a horseman. Four years ago, when Lisselan Farms, a 750-acre operation based only 30 miles from Sutherland's yard and owned by a Channel Islandbased investment company, gave Sutherland £20,000 to buy a jumper, the company chose the right man.

Tom Costello is a great friend of mine and he showed me this three-year-old called imperial Call. Even then everything he did was so athletic. He is definitely a bit special, he has so many gears,

so much class. Until he won the Hennessy at Leopardstown he was only playing at racing." he said.

playing against One Man at Cheltenham, but Sutherland is not making any rash predic-tions. "Let Gordon Richards worry about One Man and I will worry about mine. A lot of people say Imperial Call must have soft ground, which is nonsense. He won by 20 lengths at Leopardstown one day and it was rock hard. As for the mistake at the last in the Hennessy, he only went two or three inches through the top of it. Twenty-five years ago, every horse and jockey landed over a fence like that." If anybody is qualified to make such a statement it is Fergie Sutherland.

YESTERDAY'S RESULTS

Leicester Going: good to soft with heavy patches 2.10 (2m 4) (10yd cit) 1. Jober The Klober IR France 10.13 bed 10. Report 10.15 (R Ferrant, 10-11 lead; 2, Bell Seafficy (7-2), 3, Krinchstewn (14-1), 11 ren. 13, 12, Mer. J. Friman. Tote £ (7-7), 1-10, 0; £ (5-7), 22 80, DF: 04.10 Tito £ (6, 10 CSF; £ 4.83; 2.40 2m; 1(ch)), Meter Oddy (Mr. J. Calloy, 7-4 tex. Thumdered's resp.); 2, Sentonias (15-2), 3, Ecz. Assay (12-1), 5 ran. 1 Vi. 21, J. Krig. Tote £ 2-30; £ (12-0), 5 ran. 1 Vi. 21, J. Krig. Tote £ 2-30; £ (12-0), 5 ran. 1 Vi. 21, J. Krig. Tote £ 2-30; £ (12-0), 5 ran. 1 Vi. 21, J. Krig. Tote £ 2-30; £ (12-0); £ (10-2); 6 ran. 1 Vi. 21, J. Krig. Tote £ (11-4); 6 ran. 1 Vi. 21, J. Krig. Tote £ (11-2); 6 ran. 1 Vi. 21, J. Krig. Z. J. Krig. Tote £ (11-2); 6 ran. 1 Vi. 21, J. Krig. Tote £ (11-2); 6 ran. 1 Vi. 21, J. Krig. Tote £ (11-2); 6 ran. 1 Vi. 21, J. Krig. Tote £ (11-2); 6 ran. 1 Vi. 21, J. Krig. Tote £ (11-2); 6 ran. 1 Vi. 21,

3.10 Cm chi 1. Chief Reper IC Lievestyn, 15-2; 2. Do Rightly (11-2), 3. Act The Wag (5-1), 6. Bellisto 9-4 lav. 15 ran -41, 1 vi N Testion-Device, 76t 028 0; 22.10, 07 50, 255 00; CSF 248 02. 289 92
3.40 (Sm. ch) 1, Distinctive (C Lieuselyn, 6-1), 2, Richardson (4-1 favi; 3, Peruvan Gaio (5-1) 11 mar, 11/2 20, M Witconson (16-5 656) 52:00, 22-20, 52-80 DF 51/30, Thro 540:00 GSF 531.14, Tricest 121.30
4.10 (2m 4f 110yd ch) 1, Eastern River (5 Wyrne, 16-1); 2 East Plouston (7-1 (4-to); 3, Bendor Mark, (8-1), 4, Plynn's Gri (12-1), Mellegny 7-1 (1-fav) (16-ran Mc S T Forster Tote 527.10; 55:30, 52-50, 52-40, 52-30 DF 188:00 Trice, not ven jooci of 52:25-54 camed forward to 3.50 at Wetherby today) camed forward to 3.50 at Wetherby today)
4.40 (2m 4f 110yd ch) 1, Rustin Ar, out

4.40 gm 4f 110xd chi 1, Rustic Air (M Dwyer, 2-1 tast; 2, Andromey Chef (10-1), 3, impeccable Timmin (14-1) gm NR: Bausric Bay 3%1, 3, J Frogssidt, Tote: 02-50, 62:00, 02-40, 61 40 DF, 511,70 Thro: 643.60, CSF 522.80, Tro \$22.80, Tacast \$212.21 Pacapot \$132.60. Quidpot \$51.30.

Catterick Bridge

DLE (22.568: 2m) (25 (REPES)

2-371 CHARRAM RHAPSODY 14 (6) (Continue bedestrate Ltd) I Estimby E-11-5 L Wyer (25 (LINERAM RHAPSODY 14 (6) (Continue bedestrate Ltd) I Estimby E-11-5 L Wyer (25 (LINERAM RHAPSODY 14 (6) (Continue bedestrate 5-11-4 L O'Ham - De ANARDYS BRES 54 (A Control P Chestrating 6-11-4 R Supple - CLESTIAL KEY 88° (M Brodick) M Johnston E-11-4 R Supple - CLESTIAL KEY 88° (M Brodick) M Johnston E-11-4 R Supple - CORSTON ANDERS 48° (A Upbert) L Impg 6-11-4 R Supple - CORSTON ANDERS 48° (A Upbert) L Impg 6-11-4 R Supple - CORSTON ANDERS 48° (A Upbert) L Impg 6-11-4 R Supple - CORSTON ANDERS 48° (A Upbert) L Impg 6-11-4 R Supple - CORSTON ANDERS 48° (A Upbert) L Impg 6-11-4 R Supple - CORSTON ANDERS 48° (A Upbert) L Impg 6-11-4 R Supple - CORSTON ANDERS 48° (A Upbert) L Impg 6-11-4 R Supple - CORSTON ANDERS 48° (A Upbert) L Impg 6-11-4 R C CORSTON ANDERS 48° (A Upbert) L Impg 6-11-4 R C CORSTON ANDERS 48° (A Upbert) L Impg 6-11-4 R C CORSTON ANDERS 48° (A Upbert) L Impg 6-11-4 R C CORSTON ANDERS 48° (A Upbert) L Impg 6-11-4 R C CORSTON ANDERS 48° (A Upbert) L Impg 6-11-4 R C CORSTON ANDERS 48° (A Upbert) L Impg 6-11-4 R C CORSTON ANDERS 48° (A Upbert) L Impg 6-11-4 R C CORSTON ANDERS 48° (A Upbert) L Impg 6-11-4 R C CORSTON ANDERS 48° (A Upbert) L Impg 6-11-4 R C CORSTON ANDERS 48° (A Upbert) L Impg 6-11-4 R C CORSTON ANDERS 48° (A Upbert) L Impg 6-11-4 R C CORSTON ANDERS 48° (A Upbert) L Impg 6-11-4 R C CORSTON ANDERS 48° (A Upbert) L Impg 6-11-4 R C CORSTON ANDERS 48° (A Upbert) L Impg 6-11-4 R C CORSTON ANDERS 48° (A Upbert) L Impg 6-11-4 R C CORSTON ANDERS 48° (A Upbert) L Impg 6-11-4 R C CORSTON ANDERS 48° (A Upbert) L Impg 6-11-4 R C CORSTON ANDERS 48° (A Upbert) R C CORSTON ANDERS 48° (A U Going good 1.50 (2m indie) 1. Jacrima Puddleduck (T Eley, 5-1), 2. Meadoettum (10-1): 3. Koo's Promise (6-1) Level Edge 3-1 far: 15 ran. MF: Dolly Proces MI, 61. A Streeter Tota: E4 80, 12-20, 55: 20, E7 30, DF: (12 10 mo £15: 40, CSF £52.52, Tricast; £288 74

CSF: £61.06

2.50 (2m 3) ch) 1, Fortunes Course (G. Upton, 7-2), 2, Chorus Lrin (23-1); 3, Beauchamp Grace (Ferns Lav), 8 ran 6) hd, Jiding, Tota: (23-8), 61.30, 52.20, £1.40 DF £42.50, £57.233

3.20 (2m hdte) 1, Ouseurs Contraction (T. Dascombe, 12-1); 2, in A Mornam (4-1 fav), 3, Professood Packer (5-1), 4, George Lane (12-1), 21 ran MR. Danks Lad, Superhoo, 12-4, 3 C. Popham Tota (17-70, £6-3), 17-6 £13.05 £1.00, £1.20, £1.30 £1.00, £1.30 £1.00, £1.30 £1.30, £1.30 £1 Side So. CSF: SST.77 Tricest 2261.47
3.56 (2m ch) 1. Newtrall Prince (T Elay, 11-4 tax); 2. Port in A Storm (3-1), 3. Rupples (12-1) 9 tax, 3k, 12 A Steeter Tote 64 10; 22 00, 67:20, 62:40 DF: 64:20 Tros: 514:30 CSF: 511.01 Tricest 273.54
4.20 (2m 11 Hoyd holle) 1. Slaught Son (J Caleghan, 16-1); 2. Nitiochside Lac' (16-1); 3. Redical Choice (9-1), 4, Cacle Boy (7-1). Abbey Lamp 4-1 biv 19 tax NR: Ceribitien, Pennent Cottage 249; 68 R Pether, Toter 5551.60. Trice, not won (2001 of 5277-67); 7551.60. Trice, not won (2001 of 5277-67); 7551.60. Trice 10:24.24.40 CSF 1242.30 Incast 12.244.40
4.55 (2m flat race) 1. Gods Squad (G Cehill
5-1): 2. Colonel George (11-10 lav), 3. Els
Meta (15-1) 27 ran, 1i, 5f. Whickfown Tole
14.90; £25.0, £1.30, £2.90 DF £6.80 Tno
126.70 CSF £11.51

226 70 CSF £11.51
Jacopot: not won (pool of £12.380.33
carried forward to Taureon today).
Placepot: £383.70.
Quedoot: £5.10. Lingfield Park Going: standard

2.00 (1m 4d) 1. One Off The Real (I Field. 9-2), 2 Heighth Of Fame (10-1), 3 Colosse (4-1) Greenwich Again 9-1 fav 8 ren 11 134. A Moore Tote: E5.20 £ 1.10, 12.40, 12.40, DF £20.20 CSF: £41.60 Timest 2.40, DF £20.20 CSF: £41.60 Timest 2.30 (7h), Miserian (A Clark, 7-2); 2 Mr. Nevermind (1-1-10 tay); 3, Star Talent (7-1), 6 rin. Mrt. Speady Classic. 134, 31 R CSchen, 10er £3.40; £1.60, £1.30, DF £3.10 CSF: £7.57. 23.10 CS: £7.57.

3.00 (1m 2) 1. Burn Olleding (M.Larsen, 4-5 tar): 2. Zuno Figer (10-1); 3. abr. (10-1); 7 sen, 4. 2. C. Balten, 10se; 57-40; 51.20.

23.80 DE 14.20, CS: £9.41.

3.30 (1m) 1. Carometrien Bay (A. Whelen, 3-1); 2. Bao, Flyer (5-4 tar), 3. Lancashine Legend (5-1); 4 ma, 3. bit (G. Lakoore Tota: 13.30, DF: 52.40, CSE: £7.01.

C3.00 DE C4.20. CSF C9.41.

3.50 (Jim) 1: Continuation Bay (A Whelen, 3-1):-2 Biton Flyer (6-4 tay), 3. Lancashive Legend (5-1): 4 ren. 3. 3i G. Li Moore Tote: 12.50. DF: 52.40. CSF: 27.01.

4.00 (Jim 2): 1: Zahid (J. Currus, 3-1): 2. Silical (9-4 tay): 3. Monstone (20-1): 14 ren. 48, tel. K. Buttle, Tote: 23.00. E1.10 (23.00. E1.10 (23

TAUNTON

THUNDERER 2.00 Allahraka. 2.30 The Bobtail Fox. 3.00 Yahmi. 3.30 Afterkelly. 4.00 Supreme Flame. 4.30 Early Drinker. 5.00 King's Gold. Carl Evans: 3.30 Charden.

GOING GOOD TO SOFT (SOFT IN PLACES) TOTE JACKPOT MEETING BAM INSPECTION

2.00 PITMINSTER SELLING HANDICAP HURDLE (£1,984: 2m 1l) (16 runners)

[\$1,984: 2m 11] (16 runners)

107 2999 SOMERICAN MONE 13 (V.D.F.S.5) M Pipe 3-12-0 O Burmers (7)

102 5966 E BAMBRON 36 (5) M Marmers 8-11-6 L Mr A Windle (7)

103 4994 CELCILS 13 (B.C.D.F.G.S. M Fipe 12-11-7 O Statipactive

104 2933 SERVIPS CASTLE 42 (6) N First 8-11-3 J First

105 16-4 HIGH POST 322 G Hars 7-18-11 J Burmers 105

106 0307 SARE SECRET 13 (D.D.F R Runnerth 5-10-9 D Surrawgh

107 5252 HAMDSON 49 BAGRONA -10-9 J R Rannergh

108 6-00 71 FICH RVSR 13 (S) Liones 11-10-8 Miss E J Jones (7)

109 0399 GAME OR EMBA 59 J Medium 5-10-7 S Carram (3)

109 0399 GAME OR EMBA 59 J Medium 5-10-7 S Carram (3)

109 0399 GAME OR EMBA 59 J Medium 5-10-10-8 (first Mr 4 Coding) (7)

112 0499 MAIJANAUL 13 R Datar 6-10-10-6 Miss E J Modely (7)

113 5091 GAMETHON 13 R Datar 6-10-10-7 S Rephan (7)

114 0022 MONTHON 13 R Datar 6-10-1 S Rephan (7)

115 6-10 SARICHARM 13 R Datar 6-10-2 J T Describacio (3)

116 -006 ALLARRAMA 14 Miss J Revis 6-10-2 J D Burchell 116 -006 ALLARRAMA 14 Miss J Revis 6-10-2 D J Burchell 117 Rothers Surger, 9-2 Schopps Castle 5-1 Handson, 11-2 others.

2.30 HENLADE NOVICES CHASE

3.00 CROCOMBE NOVICES HURDLE (£2,766: 3m 110yd) (14)

3.30 MITFORD SLADE CHALLENGE TROPHY HUNTERS CHASE (Amaleurs, £3,501; 4m 2f 110yd) (15)

7-2 Myllege, 4-1 Flasty Bridge, 8-2 Atterbally, 5-1 Beometroli, 6-1 others

4.00 TAUNTON NATIONAL HUNT NOVICES HURDLE (£3,035: 2m 3i 110yd) (14)

HUPDDLE (ES, 035: 27) 31 110yd) (14)

501 10 LUCKY EDOR 48 (C, 6) P Nobbs 5-11-11... C Mande
502 0-26 AH THER YOU ARE 102 (B) K Bulley 7-11-4. G Bradley
503 00 BELLDORAN 13 C Jones 5-17-4. S Carons (3)
504 0 CARBERLAND YOUTH 14 Man C Caron 5-17-4. S Fenton (3)
505 0 LORD MCAINFROAGH 14 G J Mewile 6-17-4. Mr R Water (7)
506 0 KRSY MCORSIDE 47 R Bater 5-11-4. Mr R Water (7)
507 -202 LORD MCAINFROAGH 14 (S J Mewile 6-17-4. R Formor 3)
508 276 MANDALAY 470 J Did 7-11-4. D Gentlegiter
509 004 MTRE 39 G Jones 8-11-4. D Gentlegiter
509 004 MTRE 39 G Jones 8-10-4. T Discorpto (5)
511 TH BILL BLACOMMO D Sterwood 5-10-4. J R McCardhy
512 0-629 CARIS ROSE 18 M SERDICAT 6-10-13. J R McCardhy
513 0-629 CARIS ROSE 18 M SERDICAT 6-10-13. B Provent
514 -63 SAMMER HAYEN 13 N Carpard 7-10-13. Bry Layer CO.

4.30 SANNAGOTT NOVICES HANDICAP CHASE (£2,927: 2m 110yd) (12)

(22,927: 2m 110yd) (12)
601 2211 EARLY DEWICER 13 (CD.6.5) 0 Sherwood 8-12-0 JA MicCariby
602 Lin52 FEMMOX 13 (C.F.6.5) R Hodges 9-11-2 T Descourbe (5)
603 2404 GREEN'S FARR 13 (5) 6 Hann 6-10-1 P Hodge
604 5528 CASPAN BELIEA 39' 5 Rosph 8-10-10 8 Barrough
615 000 REGALIER SUPPEME 30' P Bodge 7-10-6 A P MicCory
606 0036 UNICLE BERT 37 6 MicCory 6-10-6 8 Cofford
607 F259 ABANARO 9 (5) FR Frost 7-10-4 8 Cofford
607 F259 ABANARO 9 (5) R Frost 7-10-4 8 Cofford
609 6032 RICKU 75 (F) Mrt 1 Richards 8-10-0 8 Powel
609 6-59 STRATION 6-12-8 H Hone 6-10-0 8 Powel
610 605 SERSENS SUMPLISE 477 (8) Be Ham 6-10-0 9 Rod/cold
611 PPP MICMIGHT MYSTIC 16 P Prinched 9-10-0 P Prinched
612 FOP/ MARYLAND BOY 951 M Kenero 8-10-0 P Prinched
613 FOP/ MARYLAND BOY 951 M Kenero 8-10-0 P Prinched
614 FOP/ MARYLAND BOY 951 M Kenero 8-10-0 L Henrey
614 Early Division, 7-2 Femelo, 5-1 Green's Fatr, 6-1 Fichat, 3-1 Others. 9-4 Early Dunker, 7-2 Femilia, 5-1 Green's Fetr, 6-1 Ficher, 8-1 others.

5.00 BLACKDOWN HELLS HANDICAP HURDLE

(\$22,285: 2mil 1) (16)

1 10/ TISSISAT 652F (6) J Kirby 7-11-10 ... G Upton
2 1416 CORRIN HILL 46 (9) DF F A S. B Hodges 8-11-8 T Descorabe (5)
3 5212 ROBBES PRIME 12 (0,6.5) C Poptons 6-11-8 T Descorabe (6)
4 053 WORLD EXPRESS 235F S Millions 6-11-6 ... S Burrough
5 0073 LAWM-SWOOD JURGEN 18 (0,5.F) J Speaming 9-11-3 ... C Mande
6 -013 HARVEST VICHY 16 (0,5.F) C Speaming 9-11-3 ... C Mande
7 -622 IONE 3 60.D 55 Mrs L Richards 6-11-1 ... S Michiell
8 2292 LITTLE HOULEAM 55 (0,D.P.) E Ethiorid 5-11-0 ... J R Karamach
4-55 CURKE SAMPR BOY 124 (6) D Boochell 5-10-13 Mics E J Jenes (7)
10 5000 Mic O THEES 6 (5) A Memorable 7-10-12 ... Mr Boothy
11 POT- CLASSIC BARGE 271 (6) H Mimmers 6-10-12 ... Mr Boothy
12 5510 CHRSTS GLEN 55 (V)D.F.G.J Boothy 7-10-10 ... Gay Lawre (3)
13 5284 SHEPHERUS REST 14 5 Moder 4-10-9 ... Mr Mimm
14 2-40 HEART OF SPAIN 50 P Brever 6-10-5 ... Mr R Thornbox (7)
18 7000 MARKEY 50 P Excite 4-10-9 ... Mr R Thornbox (7)
19 POTT OTUCH SLUER 12 (CD.S) H Memores 6-10-0 ... S Curson (7)
18 7000 MARKEY 50 P Excite 4-10-0 ... Mimmer (7)
19 POTT OTUCH SLUER 12 (CD.S) H Memores 6-10-0 ... S Curson (7)
18 7000 MARKEY 50 P Excite 4-10-0 ... Mimmer (7)
19 POTT OTUCH SLUER 12 (CD.S) H Memores 6-10-0 ... S Curson (7)
19 POTT OTUCH SLUER 12 (CD.S) H Memores 6-10-0 ... Mimmer (7)
19 POTT OTUCH SLUER 12 (CD.S) H Memores 6-10-0 ... Mimmer (7)
19 POTT OTUCH SLUER 12 (CD.S) H Memores 6-10-0 ... Mimmer (7)
19 POTT OTUCH SLUER (7) B-1 Robuss Pride, 7-1 World Express, 8-1 Comm Hill, Classic Image, 10-1 Shapberts Rest, 9-1 Harvest Vane, 10-1 others

TRANSERS: J Old. 6 winders from 16 numers, 37.5%; M Pripe, 44 from 182, 24.2%; P Hobbs, 20 from 88, 22.3%, M Henderson, 6 from 33, 18.2%; O Sherwood, 3 from 18, 16.7%. 10.2%; U Sincarwood, 3 users 10, 107 a.
) DOCKEVES: S Comman, 4 universe from 21 rules, 19 0%; J R Kavarregh, 6 from 33, 18.2%. D Bridgender, 13 from 79, 16.5%; C Maude, 11 from 83, 18.3%; N Marsa, 4 from 31, 12.9%.

WOLVERHAMPTON

2.10 Snow Falcon. 2.40 Jigsaw Boy. 3.10 Allinson's Boy. 3.40 Maple Bay. 4.10 Nameless. 4.40 Hill Farm

GOING: STANDARD DRAW: NO ADVANTAGE 2.10 CAPRICORN MAIDEN STAKES (3-Y-0: £3,518: 1m 100yd) (11 numers)

1 2224 BATH KNIBOTT 80 D FRONT DUSIS 9-0. G Corter 5
1 2224 BATH KNIBOTT 80 D FRONT DUSIS 9-0. G Corter 5
2 55- LAW DANCER 152 I MINS 9-0. J FORMS 11
3 4055 LOCK STYLE 19 R Holinchend 9-0. T Wellburg 5
5 650- SHEWN FALCON 166 (f) M Bed 9-0. T Wellburg 8
6 500- SHEWN FALCON 166 (f) M Bed 9-0. M Fendos 9
7 2230 YEOMAN OLMER 19 B Lichkens 9-0. L Newton (5) 3
5 6 FARTY HORL AND 5 266 5 VINLers 8-0. J Chara 6
9 5 5 STRIN FALCON 12 A Newton 8-0. J Chara 6
9 6 SYSTEM SONATA 21 LORD Huntingdon 8-9. D Harrison 1
15 YEZZA 117 A Lent S. 9 11 5 YEZZA 117 A Jam's 8-9 _____ J Tate 4
7-2 Lan Devote 4-1 Story Falcon, Bath Knight, 5-1 Mestern South, 6-1 others. 2.40 ARIES CLAUMING STAKES (\$2,398: 71) (9)

2. **TU ARIJES CLAIMINIS STAKES (\$2,398: 71) (9)

1 900- ALLEZ CYRANO 174 (D.F.S.) M Bed 5-9-3 ... M Fernon 4

2 14-3 CHADLECH LAWE 14 (V.C.D.S.) R Hollinshead 4-5-7 F Lynch (7) 1

3 0-04 MAYDIAN BANGER 12 (F.E.S.) M Canacho 8-9-0 ... L Chamorés 5

4 0304 SLFON LEDGER 15 (V.F.S.) M Canacho 8-9-0 ... L Chamorés 5

5 4 NYERAM 18 May 0 frame 4-8-11 ... A MicSone 3

5 8-61 MSSAW 807 7 (20.F.S.3) P Marghy 7-8-11 ... S Decisine (3) 7

6-50 SFREACY 12 (2.5) A Lawte 5-8-70 ... C Carner (7) 9

8 0-80 LOWELY USEL 6 K Canachyban-Brown 4-9-5 ... J Chamorés (7) 8

7-2 Ligsaw Boy. 4-1 Chadleigh Lawe, 3-2 Novelan Raider, 11-2 Intimal, 6-1 others.

3.10 TAURUS HANDICAP (\$5,379: 7f) (12)

3.40 BRITISH GAS TRANSCO HANDICAP

4 000- CASTEL ROSSELD 89 (F.6.5) if Horits 6-9-4. Dutint 7 5 1222 MAPLE ROSSELD 89 (F.6.5) if Harts 6-9-4. D Batterie 5 5 220- GRAND SELECTION 168 (C.J. 6) M Berl 4-9-2. P Roberts (5) 8 5 200- CHARMAND SELECTION 168 (C.J. 6) M Berl 4-9-2. P Roberts (7) 8 0114 FIELD OF VISION 8 (C.J. F.6) in Johnston 6-8-9 0 Casay (7) 6 9 -331 KMTHWYN 20 (C.D. 6) C Lissy 6-9-8. D Hartson 2 7-2 Charmans Choice. 4-1 Michier Fire Fires, 5-1 Kinthyn, Field Of Vision, 6-1 South Eastern Fired, Grand Selection, 7-1 Michie Ray, 8-1 options.

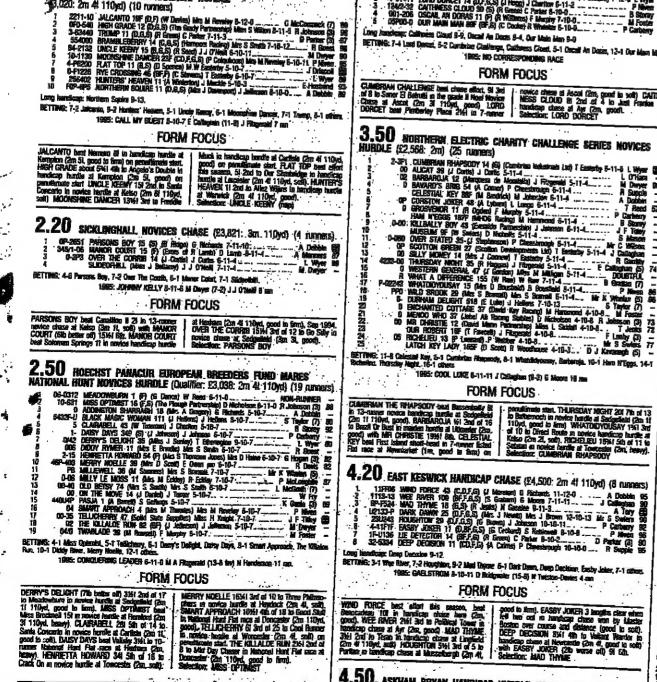
4.10 AQUARIUS WOLVERHAMPTON SPRINT SELLING SERIES (Qualifier: 3-Y-0: £2,398: 50) (7)

1 500- NAME ESS 118 (CD,6) D CROUNT 9.0. J | (1)
1 500- NAME ESS 118 (CD,6) D CROUNT 9.0. J Fortune 5
2 00-3 SENERAL FOLKHOM 7.1 BERTON 8-12. J Edmonds (7) & GRESO 14 BERTON 8-12. P Roberts (5);
3 0338 RED ACUSLE 23 (B,8) J Berty 8-12. P Roberts (5);
4 4353 OHES-C 14 R Horizontand 8-7. F Lynch (7) 1
5 -584 BLPN CREEN 11 J I Harris 8-7. N Fortune 7
6 0000 HIGHLAND FAWN 9 B McMahne 8-7. S G Carter (7);
7 3252 MARPIN STREET 7 P FINE 8-7. S Sanders 1 5-2 Marvio Street 7-2 General Equation, 9-2 Effin Queen, 5-1 Dies-C, Naroetess, 6-1 Red Acutele, 25-1 Highland Favor

4.40 GEMINI FILLIES HANDICAP (£2,914: 1m 4f) (11)

6 3-12 GREEK NGHT OUT 23 (D.BF.F.6) I Eye 5-8-10... PLappit 3 7 P20- BUCKLEY BOYS 78 A Balley 5-8-8... Angels Gallmore (7) 4 8 642. PEDALTOTHENETAL 90 IF Interied 4-8-7....... A Clark 9 900- GREENWAY LADY 11 Mbs A Emblores 4-8-6... DOUBTFUL 5 10 0000 SAMAMA CAY 12 (B.F.) P Felyar 4-7-13........ J Tatle 7 11 0600 LADY ELIZABETH 11 K Cannologyan-Brown 4-7-10 - J Quites 10 11-4 Greek Hight Dut, 3-1 Noble Cannors, 7-2 Petallethemetal, 9-2 Marita, 7-1 Hit Farm Danter, 10-1 Buckley Boys, Joba, 12-1 others.

COURSE SPECIALISTS TRAINERS: P Milched. 4 winners from 12 surners. 33.3%, M Johnston, 33 from 122. 27.0%; Lord Hundogdoo, 16 from 67, 23.9%, S Williams. 9 from 61, 22.0%, R Guest. 5 from 24, 20.6%; M Bell, 6 lipm 31, 19.4%. JOCKEYS: R Lapsie, 4 whereas from 22 dates, 18.2%; J Tate, 9 from 50, 18 0%, T lives, 21 from 119, 17.9%; G Carler, 20 from 121, 16.5%; R Cockeane, 16 from 97, 16.5%; P McCabe, 6 from 43, 14.0%.



RACELINE

OTT HAM 107 207 307

106 206 306

THANERS: D. Micholson, 15 winners from 49 runners, 90.8%, Mrs. M. Haveley, 44 from 150.80 from 150.80 from 172, 19.4%; J. Glagerald, 17 from 103, 16.5%.

PISH 161 261 38 BUNKCHED FREST TIME: Nothingham: 345, Mester. Pangloss. Taumton: 200 Seatthmo: 3:00 Tremble Wetnerby: 1:50 Past Top. Wolverhampton: 2:10 Snow Falcion, 3:10 Allinson's Meste. 3:40 Everior Rulo. 4:40 Loverscape.

103, 18 5%.

JCCKEYS: E Calleghen, 5 winners from 13 rices, 38 5%; P Niven, 42 from 163, 25.5%; L Wyer, 38 from 160, 22.5%; R Johnson, 3 from 14, 21.4%; L O'Hers, 4 from 26, 14.3%; A Dobber, 10 from 72, 13.9%.

Run of indifferent form may cost Surrey captain his place

Stewart at heart of England's dilemma

FROM ALAN LEE, CRICKET CORRESPONDENT. IN KARACHI

THERE was a time, not so doubtful, but there is no long ago, when Alec Stewart was at the very heart of England's one-day team. He opened the batting, kept wicket and was a lively lieutenant to the captain. In this World Cup. his role is increasingly obscure, a decline he is deter-

Stewart might not even have played against South Africa last Sunday but for another injury to Robin Smith, He has made few runs, has lost the wicketkeeping gloves to Jack Russell and appears to be on the periphery of any decisionmaking. From this point on.



his World Cup will go one of

two ways. Either Stewart is restored to opening the innings with Michael Atherton, the equally beleaguered captain, or he may find himself out of the side. And if he is to open, as is his wish, he could also resume the wicketkeeping duties. Russell has done no wrong: indeed, he has looked the outstanding wicketkeeper in the tournament. But, as ever when things go wrong, the additional options provided by Stewart make him a convenient cast-off.

Stewart has always been one to put up his hand for every job going and he would elcome the return to full involvement. Whether the manager, Raymond Illingworth, is yet willing to jettison Russell, for whom he has an ever-increasing regard, is

NEW Zealand took their place

in the World Cup quarter-

finals yesterday with a 109-run

victory over the United Arab

Emirates in Faisalahad, Half-

centuries from Roger Twose

and Craig Spearman helped

them to a total of 276 for eight

after heavy mist had delayed

Twose, the former Warwick-

shire player, scored 92 from 112 balls, including eight

fours. Spearman scored 78

from 77 balls as New Zealand

set their formidable target in

47 overs. The New Zealand

howlers then kept up the pressure on the UAE, who

limped to 167 for nine. It was

Answers from page 43

more than all I have."

GRUMIO

VERGES

LONGAVILLE

the start by an hour.

question it would aid the balance of the side and permit the inclusion of Dermot Reeve. "It is an option, one we will have to think about before we play Pakistan on Sunday." Atherton said yesterday.

Both Illingworth and Atherton have expressed concern about the technical side of Stewart's batting, the loss of footwork rhythm that has so undermined the back-foot strokes that were his strength. But Stewart himself, while admitting to the problem, believes he has overcome it.

Yesterday, as the party flew south to Karachi, Stewart discussed his position and his ambitions in a career that has not yet fulfilled him. As captain of Surrey for the past four years, he has led the most rustrating under-achievers in the country, while, as an England player since 1990, he has experienced too many disappointments.

"I haven't won anything in cricket," he reflected. "The big Test series have generally been lost or drawn, I haven't won a trophy with Surrey and I played in a losing World Cup final in 1992. That still ranks as one of my big disappoint-ments, which is why winning the present competition is so important to me.

Stewart raises his eyebrows at the gentle suggestion that this happy outcome has not so far looked probable but he clings to the belief that Eng-land need only bat as they have previously shown they can to overturn present form. Plainly, he is as unhappy as Atherion at the theory that he should actually be watching rather than playing.

"In South Africa, earlier this winter, I had a fault with my

New Zealand go through

New Zealand's third victory in Samarasekera for two. Ste-

By Our Sports Staff

Shane Thomson took three

for 20 and Dion Nash two for

34, while Danny Morrison, Chris Cairns and Robert Ken-

nedy claimed one wicket each.

Johanne Samarasekera pro-

vided the highlight of the UAE

innings. Batting at No 9, he

made a valiant unbeaten 47,

including seven fours, from 59

blows when they lost two

wickets for 42 runs after being

put into bat. Nathan Astle.

continuing his dismal form

after a fine century against

England, was bowled by

New Zealand suffered early

four matches.

balls.

WORD-WATCHING

(b) The Taming Of The Shrew. A foolish dotard, in love with

Bianca and eager to do anything to win her. When trying to

outbid Tranio in an auction for the silly girl, and losing, he says:

Nay. I have offered all. I have no more./ And she can have no

(c) The Taming Of The Shrew, again. For once the master's

ingenuity over names ran dry. Petruchio's servant, belaboured,

lat iMuch Ado About Nothing). A parish officer, second in

command to Dogberry he also acts as the straight man in a

(b) Love's Labour Lost). Attendant lord on Ferdinand, one of the

four romantic young gallants at the heart of the play. As his

SOLUTION TO WINNING CHESS MOVE

I Bdó! leaves Black without a good reply, e.g. I ... Qxb3 2 Rf8 male or 1 ... Rxd6 2 Qb8+.
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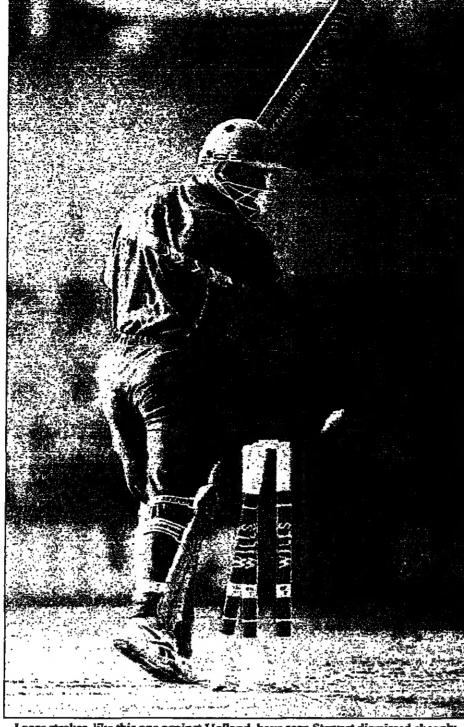
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kicked and absolutely relied on by his master.

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group of interacting comedians.

name implies, he is tall.



Loose strokes, like this one against Holland, have seen Stewart dismissed cheaply

footwork," he concedes. "It got to the stage where I was thinking about it as the bowler was coming in, which is hopeless. If you have to think about where your feet should be moving, you will not play with any rhythm. I played indifferently and averaged 30. It was a frustrating time.

"Although I knew there was something wrong, I needed

phen Fleming fell for 16 but

Twose joined Spearman to

launch a New Zealand recov-

ery. Their third-wicket stand

There followed another mi-

nor collapse as Cairns, Adam

Parore and the captain, Lee

Germon, fell cheaply before

Thomson, with an unbeaten

31, consolidated the position.

He completed the innings with

a six, lifting the left-arm spinner, Azhar Saeed, over

Saced, with three for 45, was

the most successful of the

seven UAE bowlers. Sultan

Zarwani. the captain, took two

"We are happy to qualify for the quarter-finals," Germon

said. "We learnt from our

mistakes against South Africa. This was a good practice for our next match against Paki-

NEW ZEALAND

R K Kennedy did not bat FALL OF WICKETS 1-11 2-42, 3-162 4-173, 5-210, 6-229, 7-239, 6-266

BOWUNG Samarasekera 6-0-30-1, Lius 2 0-16-0 Raza 9-0-48-1, Dukamenia 10-0-46-1 Huzaan 3-0-28-0 Sanod 7-6-45-3 Zarasean: 10-0-49-2

UNITED ARAB EMIRATES

Aztor Saced a Florring b Mash . Salacin Raza a karmedy b Momean .

Machar Hussian e Cents b Thomson Yash Mchra e Gams o Thomson Yash Mchra e Gams o Thomson Monammal Island e Cams o Thomson Soudaminad Aslam e Thomson S Ducamina e and b Cams Arched Lee on out

HISTORIA ENGLISH OUT OUT SAME TO COME TO COME TO COME TO COME TO THE COME TO C

Total (9 wkts, 47 overs)

FALL OF WICKETS 1423, 2429-3465-4470-5-81-6-88-7-92, 3424-9462

BOWLENG Morrson 7-0-37-1, Navar 9-1-34-2, Carno 19-2-31-1, February, 6-0-22-1, Thomson 10-2-20-3; Acre 5-0-23-0

Umpres: B C Coorry and S. Verkalangharan

C M Socarman o Saleem N J Acile b Samoracekera S P Reming c and b Dukarania . R G Traco c Hucasan b Saleet C L Carris c Abbas b Darawan A C Parros c Saleet 2 Zanavan S A Thorrison pot out 44 K Cermon b Saleet

Aortison not out s (b 2, fb 12, nb 1)

Total (8 wids, 47 overs) ...

stan on March 6.

long on.

of 120 came in 123 balls.

who knew me well. Raymond [Illingworth] and John Edrich both helped but it was only when I spent the ten days at home working with my dad and Geoff Arnold that I really began to iron it out. They have been my coaches since I was knee high and it was a fairly

simple adjustment. Stewart is confident that the

problem is behind him and that he will soon begin to prove it, given the chance. Before Sunday, he has to convince his captain and manager of the fact.

The likelihood is that he will succeed and that England will revert, better late than never, to a regular opening pair and perhaps even to a

Strang strikes to tear heart out of Kenya

PAUL STRANG, the leg spinner, took five wickets for Zimbabwe as they gained an unconvincing five-wicket win over Kenya in their World Cup group A match in Patna yesterday. Kenya were dis-missed for 134 with two balls of their 50 overs remaining and Zimbabwe made heavy weather of overtaking that target before crawling to 137

for five, with 7.4 overs

remaining. Sent in to bat. Kenya made a steady start despite the early loss of Tariq Igbal, reaching 60 for one. They then collapsed. however, with four wickets falling in the space of seven runs and 32 balls. Strang took command, claiming the remaining wickets to end with five for 21 in 9.4

It was a disappointing dis-play by the Kenyans, who hoped to prove themselves against their Test-playing fellow Africans. They will rue the rain which washed out the first attempt to play this match the previous day, when Zimbabwe had batted first and Kenya had them in some trouble.

"I was lucky today," Strang.

POTUROSE Tomorrow Konja v Vrest Indice, Park Mar 1, Austrias v Zinhadwe, Cogne Mar 2 Hour VS Lanka, Debu Mar 4, Act mock v Austria, Japan Mar 6, Act mock v Zinhadwe, Kareur Sin Lanka v Konja Kardy v Konja Kardy

stuff early on and I could have gone all over the park. Then, when they did try to play some big shots, they got themselves out." His figures were a career best. "I love the wickets, it turns and bounces a lot more on the pitches here," he said.

D Chudasama run out
Tang lobal b Lock
If Obeno b Peal.
S Tholo st A Flower b B Strang
M Columbe c B Strang b P A Strang
H Moch b B Strang b P A Strang
I D Odumbe c Campbell b P A Strang
I Odoyo c G W Flower b P A Strang
Ast Karim bw b P A Strang
M Sup c G W Flower b P A Strang
Raph Ak not out
Extras (b2, w6, nb1) D Chudasama run out

Total (49.4 overs).... FALL OF WICKETS 1-7, 2-60, 3-61, 4-63, 5-67, 6-109, 7-109, 3-109 BOWLING: Streak 7-2-23-0; Lock 6-2-19-1; Whittal 5-0-21-0; Peoli 10-1-23-1; 8 Strang 10-0-24-2 P A Strang 9 4-1-21-5.

P A Strang, S G Post, 9 Strang and A P C Lock did not bat. FALL OF WICKETS 1-59, 2-79, 3-104, 4-108, 5-113

BOMLING: Sui 9.2-0-37-0, Ali 8-1-22-3; E Odumbe 2-0-14-0; Odovo 2-0-7-0; Karm 10-1-21-0; M Odumbe 10-2-24-2; Tikolo 1-Umpires. Khazar Hayat and C Michig WORLD CUP DETAILS

P W T LNR Pb 2 3 0 0 6 2 2 0 1 0 4 2 2 0 1 0 4 3 1 0 2 0 2 3 1 0 2 0 2 3 1 0 3 0 0 RESILTS. Also more to Zerbahne by 6 and independent Science of Australia Colombia (1972) indicate Australia Colombia (1972) indicate Australia (1974) indicate Colombia (1974) indicate (1974)

PRITURES, Tomorrow, Pavidae v South Amos, Korachi, Mar 1, Holand v UAE, Lahore Mar 3, Pokslari v England, Karachi, Mar 5: Holand v South Amos, Revolpto Mer 6: Pakistan v New Zestand, Lahore

England keep mum as Cronje croons happily

ENGLAND'S World Cup party, chastened by recent public relations disasters in Pakistan, were tight-lipped to a man in Karachi yesterday. out they still came out looking like sourpusses. This was courtesy of some unchous remarks by Hansie Cronje, the man who captains the South Africa team that Michaci Atherton, in another of his ill-advised remarks, labelled as "dour Afrikaners".

"I have nothing but praise for the way we have been ooked after over here," Cronje crooned. "The tournament has been really well organ-ised, the pitches are the type we like at home and the practice facilities have been as good as we could have wanted. We've absolutely no comaints whatsoever. We like Pakistan and we would like to stay here for the quarter

If he was aiming to kick England when they were



down, Cronje's timing was as impectable as it has been with a bat in his hand. Only 24 nours earlier. Raymond Illingworth, the England manager, had complained about the shortcomings of practice facilities.

There was more had news for the England captain. Another group of cricket writers is demanding that Atherton apologises for calling a Pakistani journalist a "buffoon. As far as we are concerned, Michael has apologised for his remark and the issue is at an end," John Barclay, the England tour manager, said yesterday.

The soft sell

trolleys that serve the players.

Pepsi signing up several star names, including the ampire,

Dickie Bird, and Dominic

Cork, the England fast bowler, to promote their prod-

uct. Some of them have fea-

tured in a television commer-

That has not prevented

With its group stage virtually devoid of competitive edge. 6.00am On Alz. Bruch (Violin Concerto No 1 in G minor); Cruesii (Divertimento for oboe and string quenta); Eigar (Cockalgna, in London Town); the World Cup's hardest fought contest has so far been the soft drinks war being waged between Coca-Cola and Pepsi. Coca-Cola paid Pedicating a Building to Shakespeare); Chopin (Corarefanse in 6 list) 9.00 Morning Collection with Paul Gambaccini, Albéniz \$3.7 million to sponsor the tournament, their advertise ments are all over the stadiums and they provide the tasteful rocket-sized drinks

(El Albaicin, Iberia); Schubert (String Quartet No 3 in B flat); Beethoven (Sonata in D nainor, Tempess;
10.00 Musical Encounters.
Schubert (The Shepherd on the Rock); Britterr (Shrionis da requiem); Matriass (Four Welsh folk songs); Hayon (Piano Trio in G); 11.10 Bratans (Violin Concerto in D); Tosti (L'Utima carazone)
19 no Composers of the Weelc minor, Tempest)

D); Tosti (L'Utima carazone)
12.00 Composers of the Weelc
Paris before and after the
French Revolution.
Caremonial music, both.
Church and secular, in postrevolutionary Paris
1.00pm Concert Half, live from
Wigmore Half, London. GriegPiano Trio plays music by
Haydh and Mendelssohn
2.00 Schools, Together 2.20 Time
and June 2.40 Drame cial in which they are offered "official" drinks, but shake their heads in disgust before gratefully accepting a Pepsi. Inside the grounds, Pepsi have tried to get their

message across by distribut-ing promotional T-shirts to speciators and encouraging their contracted players to take water from the twelfth men rather than drink at the 5.55am Shipping (LW only) 6.00 News Briefing 6.10 Familing Today 6.30 Today 6.55, 7.55 Weather 7.25, 8.25 Sport trolleys. Coca-Cola have responded with a star-studded musical television commercial of their

own, but Wasim Akram, the Pakistan captain and Pepsi Times columnist Libby Purves
10.00-10.30 News; The Trade Rag
(FM only). See Choice
10.00 Daily Service (LW only)
10.15 This Sceptr'd Isle (LW only)
10.30 Women's Hour; introduced
by Jerni Murray
11.30 Gardenens' Question Time
(i) 12.00 You said Yours
12.25pm Capital Gains. The firel
spiscole (i) 12.55 Weather
1.00 The World at One
1.40 The Archers (i) 1.55
Shipping Forecast
2.00 News; The Magic Caravan.
See Choice icon, bowled them a bounce this week by demanding his removal from it. "The song carried my shots, which had been taken purely for private use," he said. "As such, they cannot be used for commer cial purposes without my consent. I do not want to associate myself with Coca-Cola in any way."

Smog alert

Ted Dexter was not talking as much nonsense as was gener ally supposed when he said that smog had played its part in England losing a Test match in India three years ago, when several of their players were unwell during a defeat in Calcutta. Yesterday, the smog struck again, forcing the redoubtable Richie Benaud to take an early breather from his first spell of Sky television commentary in Bombay. He was out of action for the rest of the day.

New moles. go public

The Trade Rag. Radio 4 FM, 10.00am.

The Trade Rag. Radio 4 FM, 10.00am.

Every journalist worthy of the name knows what UK Press Gazette is and ones. Not in know would be like a doctor confessing that he know nothing of the British Medical Journal. UK Press Gazette is published weekly — a magazine for journalists, writient by journalists. Nick Baker's report does something unprecedented for journalists. Nick Baker's report does something unprecedented for journalists. Nick Baker's report does something unprecedented for the magazine, it forges another kind of link, this one between it and the magazine, it forges another kind of link, this one between it and the Radio 4 listener who, in all probability, has never heard of it. What the listener will learn, inter alia, is that UK Press Gazette from star reporter called Jean Morgan, a hardworking fact-finder from wales, who reveals that the magazine has a "mole" in every Wales, who reveals that the magazine has a "mole" in every wales, who reveals that wonder that UK Press Gazette is both newspaper in the land. Small wonder that UK Press Gazette is both lowed and feared by the press.

Cinema 100: The Magic Caravan. Radio 4, 2.00pm.

In my vast collection of books on cinema history, there is not a mention of William Hagger. Yet, according to Tim Green's play, Hagger was a pioneer of British cinema, blazing his trail in South Wales. With his camera, which he sold almost all his earthly goods to purchase, he made sorte of the first feature films to be shown throughout the world. Hagger is played by Tony Robinson. Appropriately, The Magic Caravan was recorded in BBC Wales's studios in Llandaff, Cardiff, the city in which Hagger was capityated by moving pictures. by moving pictures.

FM Stereo. 4.00sm Chve 6.30 Chris Evens 9.00 Simon Mayos 12.00 Lise l'Anson, incl at 12.30-12.45pm News-beat and at 1.15 the Net 2.00 Nicky Campbel 4.00 Mark Goodler incl at 5.39-6.45 Newsbeat and 6.15 the Net 7.30 Evening Session 9.00 Radio To Top 10.00 Mark Radcilife Midnight Wendy Lloyd, incl at 12.15em The Net RADIO 2

PM. Stereo. 6.00am Sarah Kennedy 6.15 Pause for Thought 7.30 Wake Up to Wogan 9.15 Pause for Thought 9.30 Ken Bruce; Incl at 10.00 Pick of the Has 11.30. Ed. Doolen 2.00pm Debble Thrower 3.30 Ed. Stewart 5.05 Paul Heisey 7.00 Jim Lloyd with Folk on 2.8.00 Marconed with a Mandolin 8.30. The Richer Mix 9.00 Kaisol Calypso 9.30 Nigel Ogden 10.30 The Jamesons 12.05am Steve Madden, Incl. Pause for Thought 3.00-6.00am Alex Lester Thought 3.00-6.00mm Alex Lester

RADIO 5 LIVE

5.00em Morning Reports 6.00 The Breaklast Programme, Incl 8.55, 7.55 racing preview 8.35 The Magazine, Incl 10.35 Exposew 11.30 Widdle News 12.00 Middleywith Met, Incl at 12.34pm Moneycheck and at 1.15 Enerteinment News 2.05 Resone on Eve Incl at 3.45 Moneycheck and at 1.15 Entertainment News 2.05 Ruscoe on Pive, incl. at 3.45 Entertainment News 4.00 John Inverdele Nationwide 5.45 Entertainment News 7.00 News Exist, and at 7.20 sport 7.35 Football Night 10.05 News Telk 11.00 Night Exist, incl. at 11.15 Financial World Tonight 12.05 and Aller Hours 2.05 Up All Night, with Rhod Stiarp

TALK RADIO

6.00em Sandy War 7.00 Simos Bates 10.00 Jonathan King 12.00 Toronty Boyd 2.00pm Anne Restum 4.00 Scott Charlotm 7.00 Seen Bolger 9.00 Moz

WORLD SERVICE

All times in GMT. 5.00am Newsday 5.30. Europe Today 6.00 Newsday 6.30 Europe Today 7.00 News 7.15 Cill the Sheft 7.30 Discovery 8.00 News 8.16. Words of Faith 8.15 Thirty-Minute Orems 8.45 Making it Up 9.00 News in German 9.15 Andy Kershew's World of Music 9.45 Sports Floundup 10.00 Newsdask 10.30 BBC English 10.45 Cill the Sheft 11.00 Newsdask 11.30 Medician 13.00. News 12.05pm Business 12.15 Elluth Today 12.30 Composer of the Month 1.00 Newshour 2.00 News 2.05 Cutliook 2.30 Megamix 3.00 News in German 3.15 The Greatfield Colection 4.00 News 14.5 World Today 4.30 News in German 5.00 Europe Today 5.36 Business 5.45 Sports 6.00 Newsdask 5.30 News in German 7.00 News 2.05 Risiness 9.15 Britain 7.30 Multitrack 8.00 Newshour 8.00 News 9.55 Business 9.15 Britain Today 9.30 Western Music 10.00 8.00 News 9.05 Business 9.15 Britain Today 9.30 Wastern Music 10.00 Newsdesh 10.30 The World Today 10.45 Sport 11.00 News 11.10 Pop Short 11.15 Sport 11.45 From Our Commondent Middingint: Newsdesh 12.30am Making it Up 12.45 Britain 1.00 News 1.10 Press 1.15 New Ideas 1.35 A Day in the Life of an Insect 1.45 Country Style 2.00 Newsday 2.30 Sport 3.00 News 3.15 Sport 3.30 Assignment 4.00 Newsdesh 4.30 Europe Today

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CLASSIC FM

4,00mm Mark Griffiths 6.00 Nick Belley 9,00 Henry, Kely 12,00 Susarrush Simons 2,00pm Concerto 3,00 Jértile Crick 6,00 Newsnight 6,30 Sonata 7,00

VIRGIN RADIC

6.00em Russ 'n' Jono 9.00 Richard Skinner 12.00 Graham Dane 4.00pm Nicky Home 7.30 Paul Coyle 10.00

3.00 Midweek Choice: 0171-765 5.15 in Trave, with Natalle Wreen moutong Herman Issae (A. selection of songs and dances); 6.10 Peter, Scutthorpe (Nountangle); C. Wegner (Tide of the Velkyrist), Die Wolforen)

Die Walkure) 7.30 BBC Scottish Symphony Orchestra under Martyn-Brabbins performs Wagner (Overbue; Fiserzi); Mozart (Pistro Concerto No 24 in C minor); Wagner (Forest Murrurs, Segrifici); Walton (Symphopur No 27)

(Symphony No 2)
9.00 Cultural Beggage
9.20 Academy of St Martin
Chamber Ensemble plays
works by Martinû,
Schoenberg and Brahms (r)
10.45 Night Waves explores

contrasting ideas of communities and their destruction in Kathryn sigelow's film, Strange Days 11.30-12.30em Voices. The soprano Elisabeth Soderstrom introduces a

election of music 1.00-2.40 Night School. Treasu Island 1.30 Spanish 16-18 2.10 Poetry of Passion

RADIO 4 5.00 PM 5.45 Party Political

7.45 Thought for the Day
8.40 Yesterday in Parliament
8.58 Weather
9.00 News 9.05 Michieck, with
Times columnist Libby Purves

See Choice
2.45 See R My Way, Peter White
recalls the pleasures and
patieties of going away on
holiday

holiday 3.00 News; The Afternoon Shift 4.00 News 4.05 Kalekioscope.

Paul Gambaccini talks to director Kathyn Bigelow and actor Raiph Fermes about the ilm. Strange Days 4.45 Short Story: Time Will Tell, by Martin Worth Read by James Taylox

Party 5.50 Shipping 5.55 8.00 News 6.30 Counterpoint (r)
7.00 News 7.05 The Archers
7.20 20/20: A View of the
Century, John Tusa
examines the nature of faith
8.05 Out of the Fire. The first in a

8.05 Out of the Fire. The first in a series on the lives of political endies (r)
5.36 True Encounters: Lost Girfs. Real-life dramas based on the psychotherapy casebook of the American psychiatrist rivin Yalom (1/6)
9.00 Eurelial Berbera Myers talks to the developmental psychologist Professor Americal Kamiloti-Smith (r)
9.30 Kalerdoscope (r) 9.59 Westher

9.30 Katerionarys V Weether
10.00 The World Tonight
10.45 Book at Bedtime: The
Contractors (8/10)

11.00 The Joys of Yiddish (3/4) 11.16 Date with Fate. Third of lour close encounters with falls
11.30-12.00 Missed Demeanours
(FM only) (r)
11.30 Today in Parliament (LW)
12.00 News, incl 12.27am Weather
12.30 The Late Book: Players
(8/10)

(8/10) 12.48 Shipping Forecast 1.00 As World Service

FREQUENCY GUIDE RADIO 1. FM 97.6-99.8. RADIO 2. FM 88.0-90.2. RADIO 3. FM 90.2-92.4. RADIO 4. FM 92.4-94.8. LW 198; MW 720. RADIO 5 LIVE MW 683, 909. WORLD SERVICE MW 648; LW 198 (12.45-5.55em). CLASSIC FM. FM 100-102. VIRGIN RADIO FM 105.8; MW 1197, 1215. TALK RADIO UK. MW 1053; 1089. Television and radio fistings compiled by Peter Dear, Gillian Mexey, Rosemary Smith and Susan Thomson

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SELFISH. GREEDY. CORRUPT. TOP NAMES FROM THE ESTABLISHMENT ELITE. DEAD!

... To be continued

Chief Constable sweetie, you were wonderful

and to be launched pr ometimes one yearns for the were certainly in tune with last days when senior policemen took a harder view of criminals. It's a long time since I heard the word "villains", for example. on television and opine about crime, they trot out their A-level sociology soundbites — crime's link with unemployment, the importance of "changing the attitides" of the "underclass". Whether they are in competition

WORDS ROUNDED

aim, to sunite

Foot back in black

with each other for this starry role is of course never disclosed, but it's interesting to see how many of them manage to appear. Last night I counted a dozen. At police contract a dezen. At poince conventions these days, they must gossip in comers like luvues, and pass remarks. "Missed you on Panorama, Clive." "Oh, they did ask me, but I was busy." Unconvinced, everyone says "Oh" and "Um", then the whispering starts. "Well, that's not what I heard."

night's Network First (ITV). Denis . Tuohy's Frontline Britain, which concludes next week, set out to expose lawlessness as endemic to Nowadays, when asked to appear poverty and unemployment, and made a very good fist of it. It hardly needed all these policemen agreeing with each other, with sincere expressions of concern. Concentrating on three areas - in Teesside, south London and Bradford - Tuohy's picture was all thefts, joyriding and mug-ging, and it was preny damn bleak. Like the criminals themselves, you began to see the process of arrest as an absurd irrelevance. When everybody strips empty houses, it seems almost unfair to single someone out, even when caught red-handed in the living

room with the lead piping.
Yes, on the other hand, the policemust learn not to assume (for example) that every black youth in But the peaked-cap chorus line Brixton is a mugger. The most mounting a takeover of our under-

engrossing section of Tuohy's film showed "Operation Eagle Eye", in which (theoretically) advanced surveillance replaces random stopand search. But the only real flame of hope was offered in the Bradford experiment, where the police are not dealing with the problem alone. Shots of buildozers confirmed that some building is going on; a bit of job creation was also mentioned. Thus it fell to the

s all journalists know, it is A sometimes convenient to blur the background while highlighting the main story, and thus it was with last night's Public Eye (BBC2), which admittedly concerned a great scandal. An American funeral corporation is

Chief Constable of West Yorkshire

to get the final word. His Top Cop

hotline will certainly be hot this

morning. "Well done, Keith, I

really mean it.".

REVIEW



Lynne Truss

taking business! Its considerable commencial success is based on the cynical exploitation of bereaved people! Public Eye got hold of its sales handbook and talked to a former employee. These guys will sell you a funeral before you're dead. They are buying up the crematoriums, and sending shockingly emotive poems to rela-tives who neglect their duty to the ashes. The poem starts: "Scatter

me not to restless winds, / Nor toss my ashes to the sea. / Remember now those years gone by / When loving gifts I gave to thee."

All this was truly alarming and deserved this well-researched programme, but it overlooked an important point: that if the American operation is overthy cynical, the novelty is in the overtness. Undertaking is a very cynical business, it offers a service every-body needs but which is obscured by taboo until the awful moment it is required, when money is the last thing on your mind. As a spokesman from the Consumers' Association pointed out, the customer buying a funeral is oppressed by grief, unfamiliar with the prices and in no position to shop around. The bereaved think it indecent to haggle. The average price of a basic funeral is now £1,200.

Still, this American company was well nailed by Public Eye.
"You've got to get 'em before their

salesmen. You can't get more explicit than that. However, there was an obvious upside to this invasion of had taste: if the market becomes openly competitive, prices may come down. Already there's a shop in north London selling coffins and urns off the

shelf - an excellent development.

ot dead but only sleeping, two high-rating series burst out of their coffins last night - Peak Practice and The Brittas Empire. Both had some serious explaining to do, but decided against it. Peak Practice (ITV) has lost both Kevin Whately and Amanda Burton, which leaves just the dry-stone walls and a few sheep, basically. But Dr Preston (Simon Shepherd) last night rounded up some rather pallid new locums (one of them Saskia Wickham, formerly Clarissa) and off we went again, tra-la, with a

tears dry" ran the instructions to rather good story about a proud roofer with a brain tumour.

In America, the turnover in some soap operas is so great that when an actor leaves, the character is simply played by someone else. Audiences accept this quite quickly. It would save an awful lot of faff we adopted this system here. Instead, in the interests of spurious realism. Dr Preston presended last night that he'd had a postcard from Jack and Beth in Africa,

which was quite sad, really. Literally resurrected from the grave was Gordon Brittas (Chris Barrie), the man of all men who deserved no second chance at life. but there you are. Even people who loathe farce must admit that The Brittas Empire (BBCI) is supremely well crafted, and last night's energetic episode was one of the best. It is the true successor to Are You Being Served? - an observation which you can take whichever way you like.

6.00am Business Breekfast (14206) 7.00 BBC Breakfast News (Caetax) (45577) 9.00 Breakfast News Extra (Ceefax) (4514751)

9.20 Can't Cook, Won't Cook (s) (3802988) 9.45 KBroy (s) (7493670) 130 Good Morning (s) (95003) 12.00 News (Ceetax) and weather (6499667) 12.05pm Turnabout (9940935)

(12.30 Going for a Song (s) (33645) 1.00 One O'Clock News (Caelax) and 1.30 Regional News and weather (77073732)

1.40 Neighbours (Ceetax) (s) (34268119) 2.00 Pebble Mili (a) (9139770)

2.40 Snowy River — the McGregor Sage (r) (s) (4419645) 3.30 Moonsin: (7345022) 3.55 Bitse: (s) (1870119) 4.10 Rugrats (r) (s) (6355867) 4.35 Out of Tune (Ceefax) (s) (4868044) 5.00 Newsround (Ceefax) (9456637) 5.10 Blue Peter (Ceefax) (s) (1167206) 5.35 Neighbours (i) (Ceelad) (s) (958732) 6.00 Stx O'Clock News (Castax) and weather

6.30 Regional News magazines (887) 7.00 This is Your Life. Michael Aspel opens the Big Red Book on another notable life (Cestar) (s) (7683)

7.30 Here and Now. Anastasia Cooks mests forgotten victims of the Gulf War, and Mark Easton reports on the latest setbeck to hit the housing market (Ceefax)

8.00 How Do They Do Thet? Earnorn Holmes and Jariny Hull present the programme with the answers. This week they find out how the new Hollywood movie, Toy Story, was made "without cameras", how a British soldier gave up the Army to look after Bosnian orphens; and how a group of pitmen got a mine of their own (Caefex) (9) (291577)

8.50 Points of View (Ceelax) (s) (250041) 8.55 Party Political Broadcast by the Labour Party (269312) 9.00 Nine O'Clock News (Ceefax), regional

news and weather (3848) 9.30 Silent Witness. Amanda Burton stars as an outspoken forensic pathologist (Ceefex) (s) (484867) 10.20 Sportsnight. Presented by Desmond Lynam, with Alan Harsen. Football: highlights of tonight's FA Cup fitth round reptays; a preview of next week's Uels. Cup match between Bayern Munich and Nottingham Forest; rugby union; a look nations' championship, with Scotland taking on England at Murrayfield and

tretand meeting Wales at Lanadowne Road (s) (7995206) 11.50 FILM: The Experts (1988) with John Travolta, Arye Gross, Charles Mertin-Smith, Kelly Preston and Deborah Foreman. Two hip Americans believe they have been hired to open a trendy have been co-opted by the Russians who want to learn about everyday American behaviour to train their spies. Directed by Dave Thomas (8) (948225) 1.20am Weather (1307320)

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PiusCode "numbers, which allow you to programm you video records: instantly, with a VideoPius+" hander.
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Acomes Ltd. 5 hothy House, Plantation Whart, London SW11 STN Videophus+"?" Piuscode (") and Video Programmies are tradements of Gernster Development 13d.

6.00cm Open University: Maths (2412409) 6.25 Science (2421916) 6.50 An Historian at Work (5519770)

7.15 See Hear Breakfast News (8833138) 7.30 Stingrey (f) (Certax) (59770) 8.00 Run the Risk (r) (Certax) (s) (3381913) 8.25 Poddington Peas (r) (4047848) 8.30 Open a Door (1736022) 8.40 The Record (s) (4240931)

9.05 Daytime on Two: Mathsphere (4511664) S Daytime on Two: Mathsphere (4511664) 9.25 English Express (4531428) 9.45 Words and Pictures (4576044) 10.00 Playdays (5966916) 10.25 Numbertime (8916664) 10.45 Care Eyes (9314461) 11.00 Around Scotland (3700732) 11.20 Music Makers (7579480) 11.40 Ireland (2105751) 12.00 Tv6 (73436) 12.30pm Worlding Lunch (64515) 1.00 Geography (5)9848) 1.20 Zig Zag (22522312) 1.40 Come Outside (3485461)

2.00 Poddington Peas (r) (10459667)2.05 Open a Door(10458138) 2.10 The Andrew Netl Show (9881428) 3,00 News (Cestac), and weather (2499393) 3,05 Westminster (Cestar) (s) (4298916) 3,55 News (Cestar) and weather (1480751) 4.00 Today's the Day (s) (480) 4.30 Ready, Steady, Cook (s) (684) 5.00 The Oprah Winfrey Show (Ceefax) (s) (7514138)

5.40 A Week to Remember (b/w) (763751) 5.50 A Different Country Practice (265157) 6.00 Star Trak: The Next Generation: Attached (Castar) (a) (323409) 6.45 The O Zone (s) (943683)



the Ayatollah (Caelax) (s) (629515) 7.45 Unepeakable Verse. A calebration of the best of British and American comic verse

(r) (987490) 8.00 Ken Hom's Hot Wok. On the menu tonight are Whitby crab and a special meet for Terry Weite: Burmese-style chicken (Ceetes) (a) (1845)

8.30 University Challenge, Southbank v Newcastle Universities (Cectax) (s) (3480) 9.00 Yes; Minister (r) (Ceefax) (4190)

Under the Sure The Pilgrim's Gift (Cestax) (s) (482409) 10.20 The Male Survival Guide. James Rolam

examines the causes of and cures for (Ceefax) Followed by Vomen on Men (634157) 10.30 Political Broadcast by the Labour Party (Ceeted) (s) (510751)

10,35 Newsnight (614912) · · · 11:20 Dark Secret, Following three men who sutter from impotence as they attend a clinic for treatment (Ceetex) (s) (324567) 11.55 Weatherview (802684) 12.00 The Midnight Hour (s) (24558) 12.30-6.00am The Learning Zone

Assignment Special: Guardians of the Ayatollah BBC2,7.00pm

Phil Rees's film offers a revealing glimpse inside Iran, where the regime of the hardine clerics is battling to preserve its ideological purity. Leading the opposition to Western liberal ideas is the Bassidj, or Mobilised Force for the Oppressed. Rees's report, based on six weeks of unrestricted filming, includes the first footage of the Bassidi shot by a Western Journalist. Claiming 300,000 members and recruiting boys as young as 12. the Bassidj functions as a moral police. Women who do not wear the Islamic veil are stopped and cautioned. Western music and videos are censored. Rees also talks to opponents of the regime, including a writer a university lecturer and a group of middle class women who, in private, at least, are challenging the rigid dress code.

Beyond Belief ITV, 8.30pm

As it is going out live, this investigation into the paranormal conducted by Sir David Frost can only be previewed in tentative terms. The certainty is that Uri Geller and Matthew Manning will be on hand to demonstrate their unusual powers. Geller when his vennues into telepathy had viewers jamming the switchboards. Manning is Britain's foremost psychic healer. He will attempt a laying on of hands in the studio and, in what is claimed to a television first, extend his powers to the audience at home. Supporting attractions include a young psychic from Israel and a man from Poland who claims to be a human magnet. Sceptics may dismiss the enterprise, but Frost and his production company know a ratings-rich subject when they see one.

Silent Witness Long Days, Short Nights BBC1, 9,30pm

A series about a forensic pathologist was bound to feature the odd curpse or two but Silent Witness is not for the squeamish. Whether we need to see repeated shots of a human body in an advanced stage of decomposition is another matter, even if it is a creation of the make-up department. When the said cadaver is linked to a story of witchcraft and black magic, it may be guessed that this is another sombre episode. It is not become Amanda Burton's pathologist is brusque and insensitive and the police, as represented by Clare Higgins and John McGlynn, are not disposed to offer light relief. But the script does have one overwhelming virtue. It compels you to wonder whether the murder suspect, against whom the evidence seems to be overwhelming, really did it. The answer is

Under the Sun: The Pilgrim's Gift BBC2, 9_30pm .

The theme of Barbie Campbell Cole's documentary from Ethiopia is the power and innocence of faith. By any test of logic, thousands of poor villagers would not venture once a year on a hard and dangerous journey to the shrine of a saint about whom journey to the shrine of a saint about whom little is known. Still less would they offer up wordly goods which they can ill afford to part with, particularly as they are likely to be exploited by the shrine's corrupt keepers. Yet the 700-year-old tradition of pilgrimage to the shrine of the part-Muslim, part-pagan Sheikh Hussein seems as strong as ever. The film concentrates on the journey of an elderly married couple, undertaken barefoot and lasting six days. Haji, the husband, believes that as a young man the sheikh cured him of a serious illness. He has been giving thanks ever since. Peter Waymark

HTY 8.00ain GMTV (2999480) 9.25 Win, Lose or Draw (\$) (3687577) 9.55 Regional News (Teletex) (5976333)

10.00 The Time . . . the Place (5) (1127312) 10.35 This Morning (15085119) 12.20pm Regional News (Teletert) (6488751) 12.30 News and weather (Teletext) (3739886)

12.55 Shortland Street (s) (37145?7) 1.25 Coronation Street (1) (Teletext) (4735206) 2.00 Home and Away (Teletext) (s) (57360206) 2.25 Chain Letters (Teletext) (s) (57372041) 2.50 Vanessa (Teletext) (s) (3176664)

3.20 News headlines (Teletext) (2406683) 3.25 Regional News 3.30 Potentie Park (1895428) 3.40 When dora (r) (s) (3803138) 3.50 Twinkle the Dream Being (3892022) 4.00 Garfield and Friends (6360799) 4.20 How 2 (r) (s) (9186138)

5.10 A Country Practice (s) (8620022) 5.40 News and weather (Teletext) (407683) 6.00 Home and Away (r) (Teleterd) (s)

6.25 HTV News (Teletext) (105190) 7.00 Wish You Were Here ... ? Judith Chalmers goes to The Gambia, John Carter takes a city break in Warsaw and

Victoria Studd expaniences the sub-zero temperatures of Canada's North West Territories (Teletaxi) (s) (2751) 7.30 Coronation Street. Jim and Liz's evening comes to an abrupt end (Teletext) (119)

8.00 Tee Off Mr Bean. Rowen Atkinson's comic character thes his hand at crazy golf (r) (s) (8799)



Geller, Frost and Manning (8.30pm)

Beyond Bellet, Sir David Manning investigate the paranormal (s) (15770) 10.00 Party Political Broadcast by the Labour

Party (612935) 10.05 News at Ten and weather (Teletext) (309799)

10.35 HTV Neuro and weather (239374) 10.46 The West Story, A profile of Vera Punter who has been keeping a photographic record of her home village of Rodbourne, near Makmesbury since 1928 (r) (191374)

11.15 FILM: In the Aftermath (1987) with Tony Markes and Rainbow Dolan. Sci-fi set in the aftermenth of a nuclear war and based on the story Angel's Egg by Mamoru Osh and Yoshitaka Amano. Directed by Carl Colpaert (155428)

12.38 God's Gift (75900) 1.30 Dear Nick (71455) 2.30 Bushell on the Box (r) (s) (88962) 3.00 Murder, She Wrote (r) (4151271) 3.50 Coach (s) (27824417) 4.15 Nite Bites (83995405) 4.30 The Time . . . the Place (r) (s) (59829) 5.00 The Village Show (21504)

5.30 Morning News (49813)

As HTV WEST except:

6,25pm-7.00 Wales Tonight (105190) 10.45 Wales at the Wigmore. A celebration of the life of Sir Gerant Evans (168206) 11.45 Tales from the Crypt (897022)

WESTCOUNTRY As HTV West except:

12.55 Coronation Street (3714577) 1.25-1.55 Chain Letters (84106751) 1.55 Home and Away (89319472) 2.25 Vanessa (57363393) 2.55-3.20 A Country Practice (4574490) 5,10-5,40 Home and Away (8820022)

6.00-7.00 Westcountry Live (38732) 10.45 Danielle Steel's Palomino (63177374) CENTRAL

As HTV West except: 12.55 Home and Away (3714577) 1.25 Chain Letters (84106751) 1.55 A Country Practice (34865022) 2.20 Variessa (57364022)

2.50-3.20 Our House (3176664) 5.10-5.40 Shortland Street (8820022) 6.25 Central News and Weather (521225) 6.55-7.00 Life Line (477225)

10.45 Film: B L Stryker - Night Train (42943312) 12.35em Nite Bites (5961417) 12.50 God's Gfft (1257726)

1.50 Dear Nick (4566417) 2.50 The Good Sex Guide... Late (7264320) 4.00 Jobfinder (8075707)

MERIDIAN As HTV West except: 12.55pm Chain Letters (3714577)

1.25 Home and Away (84106751) 1.55 A Country Practice (34865022) 2.20 Vanessa (57364022) 2.50-3.20 The Lady Killers (3176664) 5.10 Home and Away (8820022) 6.00 Meridian Tonight (683)

6.30-7.00 Jungle on Your Doorstep (935) 10.45 Meridian Focus (191374) 11.15 Tales from the Crypt (121515) 11.45 Deed Men's Tales (120886) 12.15am On the Live Side (7271900)

\$4C Starts: 6.35 Think Tank (5590645) 7.00 The Big Breakfast (61515) 9.00 Fifteen to One (18848) 9.30 Yagolion: Living and Growing (7826567) 9.45 Book Box (8371472) 10.00 Stage Two Science (8908645) 10.15 The French Programme (8150616) 10.35 trish Scientists and inventors (7855751) 10.55 Film and Video Showcase (9330409) 11.07 Schools at Work (3083003) 11.15 The Mix (7583683) 11.30 Rat-a-tat-tat (2110683) 11.45 House (21312) 12.30pm Wowser (59683) 1.00 Slot Meithrin (31374) 1.30 Film: The Terrytoons (2483732) 3.10 The Monte

first Edition (2115138) 12.00 House to ret of Convict Lake (18308393) 3,05 Williams Show (3057022) 4.00 Backdate (848) 4.30 Ride On (732) 5.00 5 Pump: Rownd & Rownd (5890206) 5.15 5 Pump: Fiell (9097454) 5.30 Countdown (312) 6.00 Newyddion (960190) 6.15 Heno (854954) 7.00 Pobol Y Cwm (634683) 7.25 Bubble Gum (423428) 8.00 Dim City (9041) 8.30 Newyddion (5848) 9.00 Y Pare (1515) 10.00 Brookside (797003) 10.35 E.R. (221645) 11.35 Cybili (292003) 12.05am-2.05 NBA XXL (862691) 4.00 Ysgolion (7456320)

6.35am Think Tank (r) (Teletext) (s (5590645) 7.00 The Big Breakfast (61515)

9.00 Fifteen to One (r) (Teletext) (s) (18848) 9.30 Schools Living & Growing (7826567) 9.45 Book Box (6371472) 10.00 Stage Two Science (8908645) 10.15 The French Programme (8150616) 10.35 Irish Scientists (78575) 10.55 Film and Video Showcase (9330409) 11.07 Schools at Work (3083003) 11.15 The Mix (7583683) 11.30 Rat-a-Tat-Tat (2110683) 11.45 First Edition (2115138)

12.00 House to House (21312) 12.30pm Sesame Street (s) (63225) 1.30 Madeline (s) (62769193) 1.55 Adele and the Poniss (77009157) 2.10 Snapshots (r) (36074480)

2.25 FILM: The Verdict (1946, b/w) with Sydney Greenstreet and Peter Lorre. A detective lights to prove a man innocent of a murder for which he has been sentenced to death. Directed by Don Siegel (420848)

4.00 Backdate (Teletext) (s) (848) 4.30 Countdown (Teletext) (s) (732) 5.00 Ricki Lake (Teletext) (s) (8859799) 5.45 Terrytoons (771770)

6.00 Blossom. (r) (s) (511848) 6.25 Home Improve 6.55 Terrytoons (475867)

7.00 Charmel 4 News (Teletext) (230645) 7.55 The Slot (318393) 8.00 Brookside. Ron prepares to a goodbye to Mike (Teletext) (s) (9041)



8.39 Travelog. Robert Etms reports from Ethiopia, where, despite news reports of famine and drought, he discovers lush landscapes with an abundance of wildlife

9.00 Dispatches. An investigation into how an important public corporation has consistently abused its position in the market place (Teletart) (767041)

9.45 The Long Johns. More satirical stabs at the British Establishment by John Fortune and John Bird. Tonight's interviewee is George Parr. governor of a maximum security prison (Teletext) (s) (503428) 10.00 ER. Lewis must choose between

advancing her career and caring for Suzie (Teletext) (s) (1374) 11.00 Friends (r) (Teletext) (s) (1003) 11.30 Moviewatch, Film magazine (s)

12.05em NBA XXL. Chicago Bulls v Orlando Magic (862691)

2.05 FILM: Gambling Lady (1934, b/w) with Barbara Stanwyck and Joel McCrea. A woman toflows in her professional cardplayer fallher's footsteps, marries a millionaire and then becomes involved in blackmail and murder. Directed by Archie Mayo (5034946) Ends at 3,15 4.00-4.45 Schools (7456320)

listings of satellite and cable Schannels, see the Vision supplement, published Saturday

Company of the second

7.00eim Bolled Egg (\$3393) 8.30 Press Your Luck (\$881190) 8.50 Love Connection (\$827157) 9.20 Court TV (4701393) 9.50 Oprah Wintey 10.40 Jeopardyl (1189751) 11.10 Sally Jessy Rephael (\$844867) 12.00 Beachy (\$6596) 1.00pm The Waltons (74816) 2.00 Geraldo (45003) 3.00 Court TV (8180) 3.30 Oprah Wintey (6810041) 4.15 Undun (\$582374) 5.00 Star Trek. The Next Generation (\$770) 8.00 The Simpsons (6481) 6.30 Jeopardyl (1131) 7.00 LAPD (6461) 8.30 Jeopardyl (1111) 7.00 LAPD (7729) 7.30 M*A*S*H (8225) 8.08 Earth 2 (44799) 8.00 Picket Fences (24835) 10.00 Star Trek: The Next Generation (27022) 17729 7-30 87-477 17 (3029) 8-09 ESITT 2 (44799) 9-00 Picket Fences (24059) 10-00 Star Treft: The Next Generation (27022) 11-00 Melrose Piace (55747) 12-00 Devid Lettermen (2389839) 12-46see The Uni-touchables (5762417) 1-30 in Laing Color (38900) 2-00 Her 68x (7804784) SKY NEWS

News on the hour 6.00cm Sunres (3347157) 9.38 Destinations (40751) 10.30 ABC Nightire (63407) 11,00 News and Business (88206) 1,30pg 11.00 News, and Business (98206) 1.30pm CBS News, (24225 2.30 Parisment (29409) 3.30 Parisment (5119, 8.30 Tonight with Adem Boulton (8883) 7.30 Sportsime (5640) 8.30 Newsparker (6566) 11.30 CBS News (27747) 12.30mn ABC News (91962) 1.30 Tonight (97417) 2.30 Newsmaker 47610) 3.30 Parisment (58453) 4.30 CBS News (36804) 5.30-6.00 ABC News (61613) SKY MOVIES

6,00em Sundle of Joy (1955) (4964) 8,00 Quality Street (1937) (6968) 10,00 lysina Tramp's for Love Alone (1997) (80577) 12,00 Dream Chapers (1985) (90577) 12,00 Dream Chaners (1965) (95205) 2,00pm Fepper (1963) (18374) 4,00 Vital Signs (1990) (4374) 4,00 huma Trump's for Love Alone (1994) (3325) 5,30 El News Week in Review (1933) 8,00 El News Week in Review (1933) 8,00 Geronimor An American Lagrand (1984) (2922) 12,05 12,05 m Strike a Pose (1953) (11944) 5,1 1,25 Nijinsky (1980) (1963) (1963) (1963) (1963) (1963) (1963) (1963) (1963) (1963) (1963)

SKY MOVIES GOLD 4.00pm The See Heark (1940) (86170374) 6.05 The Harder They Fell (1956) THE MOVIE CHANNEL

6.00 mm. The Point Bear King (1992) (47205) 5.00 Son of Levele (1945) (5722) (10.00 Where the Raid Ferri Gross (1974) (25119) 12.00 Chayenne Warrier (1934) (57848) 2.00 pm Little Boy Lost (1983) (16516) 4.00 Son of Lesele (1945) (2915) 6.00 Telomer: Teldab (1984) (29450) 8.00 (105) AUU SOT OF Lances (1995) (2945) 6.00 The Face on the Milk Carton (1995) (3122) 10.00 Royce (1983) (9425) 11.40 Bed Lieutement (1982) (19840) 1.20am; Water (1988) (35329) 3.00 1,20am Water (1985) (35329) 3.00 Districted Studie (1989) (39894) 4.30-6.00 The Poter Sear King (1992) (22691) THE DISNEY CHANNEL

Sky Movies Gold from 10pm to 4am, 5,00em Under the Unbreis Tree (\$2324577) 8.30 Fraggle Rock (41230751) 7,00 Winnis the Pook (7972508) 7,30 (15656393) 8.30 Wonderland (1565554) 9.30 Dieney (52333225) 10.00 Under the firmbreits Time (41221003) 10.30 Froughs Rock (15675428) 11.00 Mulppet Bables (88853190) 11.100 Pool Corner (8285119) 12.00 Cuents Attack (15559480) 12.30 Cuents Attack (15559480) 12.30 Dienes (2056206) 1.00 Wonderland (77/75747) 1.30 FBM: 18 Days of Lifethermer 194 Part Two (50204003) 3.30 Whrnie the Pools (56836596) 4.30 Cuents Attack (88815903) 4.30 Duckales (88815903) 4.30 Duckales (88815903) 5.00 Chp of Dele (5209358) 8.30 Dancer Bay (8885967) 6.00 Tatzan 15656993) 8.30 Wonderland (156 5.30 Danger Bey (8885567) 8.00 Terzen (8825489) 8.30 Dinosaus (68816732) 7.00 The Sinbed Show (24848454) 7.30 Facric Tele Thearn (96455041) 8.30-10.00

EUROSPORT 7.30em Duathion (22/28) 6.30 Tennis (96732) 9.50 Se Jumpro (72515) 11.00 Eurosid (90022) 11.50 Free Clembing (63954) 12.50pm Baskethall (7253) 1.00 Live Tenns (8223596) 5.00 Molors (4634) 6.00 Formula 1 (57374) 7.00 Live Tennis (43157) 9.00 Football (88157) 10.00. Trickshot (25848) 11.30-12.30ees Equasi-SKY SPORTS

7:00em Sports Centre (36225) 7:30 Record News (17732) 8:00 Wresting (27393) 8:00

4.00mm Living World 5.00 Kenneth Cope-land 5.30 Kids TV 5.45 General Christian Ententainment 6.15 Benny Hamilities a Your Day 6.45-7.00 Music SKY SOAP 7.00pm Guding Light (5753654) 7.55 As the World Turns (3604667) 8.50 Person Place (2360041) 8.20 Days of Our Lives (9575848) 19.10-11.00 Anomer (5920770) SKY TRAVEL T1.00em Girbotrotte: (2638206) 11.30 Video Tros (263795) 12.00 Kaleidoscope (9140835) 12.30pm. The Restauent Show (4473175) 1.00 Around the World ... n 30 Mitutes. (3551799) 1.30 Travel Guide (5828516) 2.00 Ploads to Freedom (5297577) 2.30 Discover Your World

Aerobics (\$9480), 9:30 Skiff Seiling (\$3799)
10:00 Opposite. Lock (\$5516) 11:30
Snostboerd Tour (46831) 12:00 Aerobics
C2 Style (\$8916) 12:30 Aerobics
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Hound Notingham Forest v Totachem
Hotsplur (\$47916) 10:00 Sports Centre
(\$7645) 10:30 Fortbol Mundel (\$5563)
11:30 Grass Robis Rugby (\$7935) 11:30
Inside the PGA Tour (\$8574) 12:00 FA Cup
Fith Round Reptsy (\$1542) 3:46 Patietten v
South Africs: Cricket Ward Cup (#1820882)

10.00pm, World Cup Fame (9141654) 10.30 World Cup Classics Belgrum v Soviet Union; 1986 (1131896) 12.00-1.00em Golf:

THE CHRISTIAN CHANNEL

SKY SPORTS GOLD

(1856583) 3.00 Getausy (6209312) 3.90-4.00 Kids Down Under (1868428) THE HISTORY CHANNEL 4.00pm 10ngs and Queens of England (6210429) 6.00-7.00 George (173823436) THE SCI-FI CHANNEL 7,00pm Battiester Galactice (\$322041), 8,00 FillAt Invesion Earth: the Alicra An-Here (3319577) 10,00 Close (\$998770) 1,00em Battlester Galactica (\$531707) 2,00-4,00 FillAt Invesion Earth: The Alicra Land (\$2519514)



9.00mm True Romance (1357799) 9.30 Grow with Joe (4725409) 10.00 Two's Grow, with Joe (4725409) 10.00 Two's Country (8780022) 10.30 Our House (1346689) 11.00 The Painted House (5986751) 11.30 Running Repairs (5986780) 12.00 Julie Child. (1337835) 12.30 pm. The Fright Gautmet. (4729225) 1.00 Yan Carc Cook (5066510) 1.30 On the Edge (4726596) 2.00 Dogs with Duriber (1191206) 2.30 Secret Gerdens (1136011) 3.00 Tms. Country (1191206) 3.30 Lens Country (1191206) 3.3 UK GOLD

7.00am Angels (8334747) 7.36 Neighbours (3184944) 8.06 Sone and Daughters (1336206) 8.30 EastEnders (1336577) 8.00 The Bill (1359157) 8.30 The Suthers (4727957) 10.90 All Crestures Great and Small (7784008) 11.06 Jules Brave (7889552) 12.00 Sons and Daughters (1339552) 12.00 Sons and Daughters (1339532) 12.30 pro Neighbours (4727883) 1.00 EastEnders (8784288) 1.30 The Bill (470954) 2.00 The Suthers (1193654) 2.20 Get Some tri (1145799) 3.00 Angels (1112799) 3.30 Edorado (1117916) 4.00 (1112799) 3.30 Eldorado (1117916) 4.00 Casually (45993119) 5.06 Larry Grayson's Generation Game (83393857) 8.15 Kenny's

Comic Cuts. (4163425) 8.25 EastErders (799903) 7.00 Eldorado (1197480) 7.20 The Last Eong (1126584) 8.00 Cet Some Int (1113426) 8.00 Som/I (1192935) 8.00 Ceptal Cay (677279) 10.00 The Pat (486959) 10.35 The Bast of Top of the Pops (3312751) 11.20 Pulcski (608479) 12.45ear FLM. Apacho Woman (2513368) 2.15-9.08 Shooping (3713707) TCC

e.00tom Savan's Crossing (54374) 6.30 Pugwell's Surraner (72206) 7.00 Fleach or Not (89503) 7.30 California Diseams (23428) 8.00 Sectal Valley High (82225, 9.30 Tiny TCC (2008732) 12.359th Tiny TCC (45225799) 2.39 Jim Henson's Animal Show (2209) 2.00 Ocean's Ordrestin (5564) 3.50 Ocean's Ordrestin (7751) 4.00 California Diseams (6889) 4.50-6.00 Secoti Valley High (5770) NICKELODEON

6.00am Henry's Cat (9058312) 6.15 Blue 1320751 6.45 Toucan Tex (8979564) 7.00 Balinh (8999577) 7.05 Gairryn (4855205) 7.35 Rugrats (Doug (155205) 8.15 Azeth Real Moneters (5293119) 9.00 Ahm and the Chipmunks (37022) 9.30 Peo-Wee's Play-rouse (74041) 10.00 Barrara Sandwich (4888) 11.00 Charten's BBC (24022) 12.00 Megic School Bus (57895) 12.30 pm Grimmy (85157) 1.00 Global Guts (35139) 1.00 Global Guts (35139) 1.00 Versiones (6428) 2.00 Christen's BBC (89481) 3.00 Pet Strop (8948) 3.00 Megich Max (1935) 4.00 The Fernis (3770) 4.30 Rugrists and Doug (8954) 3.00 Sister Scatz (4399) 5.30 Wightons (8026) 6.00 Ren and Strop (6397-00 Christs) (1799) Ren and Shripy 6.30-7.00 Clanssa (1799) DISCOVERY 4.00pm Eush Tucker Man (1127393) 4.30

Fire (1123577) 5.00 Treasure Humans (111586) 5.30 Terra X (1147157) 6.00 to Shepra Footsteps (1137770) 6.30 Beyond 2000 (9858119) 7.30 Annur C Clarke's

12.00 FILM: Stranger from Verus (7143770) 1.30pm Honey West (4715022) 2.00 The Sant (6795677) 3,00 Zoo Gang (5965022) Sami (979077) 3,00 200 Gang (995022) 4,00 FLM The Jacz Smgc (1101683) 6,00 The Adventures of Robin Hood (1131996) 6,30 UFC (984645) 7,30 The Green Homel (111172) 8,00 The Saint (8747003) 9,00 The Gossp Show (6993041) 9,30 Weekly Vlorid Novis (4736515) 10,00-12,00 FLM The Septiative (6984250) PARAMOUNT

7.00pm Bercon (3157) 7.30 Family Tios (3193) 8.00 Entertainment (9567) 8.30 Wings (2312) 9.00 Scap (23722) 9.30 Laverne and Stridey (65930) 10.00 Enter-tainment Tonghi (65515) 10.30 Frontime Harsel 13 of New 25725

renment Tongiti (88515) 10.30 Frontine (34935) 11.00 Negri Stand (45515) 12.00 The Ciruc (8900) 12.90mm The Odd Couple (86984) 1.00 Wings (8252) 1.30 Scap (44418) 2.00 Leueme and Shriley (26271) 2.30 Entertainment (12078) 3.00 Frontine 3.30-4.00 The Clinic (31418) UK UVING 6.00am Agony Hou! (7253515) 7.00 ktroy (7331751) 8.00 Esther (7490567) 8.30 Gardeners World (6840008) 8.00 Food and Draft (2272913) 9.35 Kee and Alle (2190119) 10.05 The Jeny Springer Show (8574374) 11.00 The Young and the Resiless (8761003) 11.55 Brookede (7147263) 12.30 pm Dangerous Woman (1540139) 1.25 Crossants (6188770) 2.00

Agony Hour (4553901) 2,00 Live at Times (7810205) 4,00 Interestion UK (6487451) 4,30 Crosswits (6432041) 5,05 Lingo (63434931) 5,30 Lichy Ladders (9407225) 6,00 Bewisched (9401136) 6,30 Brookside (6575883) 7,05 Delie Smith (6783480) 7,40 Joher's Wild (6081480) 8,05 The Young and the Residess (1047119) 8,00 Cagney and Lenry (9248596) 10,00 Charle's Angele (6241883) 11,00-12,00 Longer Sex Life (4545683) **FAMILY CHANNEL**

5.00pm Encape from Jupilor (7409) 5.30 Tritin (147799) 5.55 Batman (772480) 6.30 Catchphrase (7515) 7.00 Roll with Id (7545) 7.30 The Fail Guy (35426) 8.30 Home to Roost (5426) 8.00 The Ruth Rendel Mystenes: An Unkindress of Rovers (53079) 19.00 Treasure Hurtl (55026) 11.00 Cats Eyes (13041) 12.00 The Fail Guy (43789) 1.00em Batman (25078) 1.30 GP Scan Street (42146) 2.00 Big Brother Jake (42287) 2.30 African Skies (58894) 3.00 GP Stoen Street (42145) 2.30 Big Brother Jake (42287) 2.30 African Skies (58894) 3.00 GP Stoen Street (42145) 2.30 Big Brother Jake (49145) 4.00 African Skies (60639) 4.30-5.00 Escape from Jupilor (32271) MTV

8.30am The Grand (74664) 7.00 3 from 1 (9897374) 7.15 Avako on the Wildside (512725) 8.30 Music Videos (386428) 11.00 The Soul of MTV (39026) 12.00 11.00 The Soul of MTV (39026) 12.09 Grestess Hits (42008) 1.00pcs Muse Non-Stop (72546848) 2.45 3 from 1 (2098)12) 3.00 Consmatic (7865916) 3.15 Hanging Out (488742916) 4.30 Dial MTV +428) 5.00 The Zig and Zag Snow (9867) 5.30 Boom! (8860) 6.00 Hanging Out (5393) 6.30 Real World London (6665) 7.00 Grestest Hits (36533) 8.00 Utbridged with Hole (22393) 9.30 Beavis and Burthland (32567) 10.00 News 10.15 Cinemake (32567) 10.00 News 10.15 Cinemake (32567) 10.00 News 10.15 Cinematic (362428) 10.30 The State (72119) 11,00 The Engl (48596) 12.30mm Videos (1835610)

7.00am Power Breakfast (3543770) 9.00 Caté VH-1 (5879695) 12.00 Heart and Sout (7423490) 1.00gm. The Wnyl Yeans (7825695) 2.00 Ten of the Best String (5826957) 3.00 Into the Music (7839751) 6.00 VH-1-2-3 (1023454) 7.00 VH-1 for You 1879-1703. (8331798) 8.00 Wednesday Revi (6219759) 6.30 VH-1 to 1" Starg (6296206) 6.00 Ten of the Best Adverd (8320663) 10.00 The Viryl Years (8329770) 11.00 Tomany Verce is the Nightly (3726663)

1.00mm Ten of the Best. David Esso. (3533165) 2.00 Dawn Patrol CMT EUROPE

Country music from Sam to 7pm on establish, 24-hours on cable trouding 5.00pm Salurday Nite Dance Ranch 6.00-7.00 Brg Ticket ZEE TV

7.00em Asain Morring (A3318408) 8.30 Se Re Ga Ma (15431206) 9.00 Kurulichetra (15455886) 9.30 Undur Serial, Mandi (2324461) 10.30 Nomesta India (15444770) 11.00 Tara (6894396) 12.00 Buriyeud (15435022) 12.30pm Mariasi (91754119) 7.00 Undu Film Nahin (23450022) 4.00 Zee Prosents 500769851 5.00 Zee Zone (3455312) 6.30 Bengsi Serial Lookochoon (81504931) 8.00 Campus (847544541 6.30 Zee and U (66754634) 7.00 Aan Ki Adat (3451248) 7.30 Baneci Apri Basi (60354698) 8.00 News (34521586) 8.30 Hindi Film Patthar Ke Phool (96070664) 11.30-12.00 Bhangra Revisited (64793190)

CARTOON NETWORK/TNT Continuous carbons from 5em to 7pm, then TNT films as below. then TNT films as below.
7.00pm Adum's Filk (1949) (9282504:)
9.00 Stainstorm (1983) (29133190) 11.00
Merry Andrew (1885) (2010246)
(12.50pm Colorado Territory (1849)
(5272252) 2.50-5.00 Adem's Rib (1949)

CNN/QYC CNN provides 24-hour name and QVC is the home shopping channel. PERFORMANCE

7.00pm Verd/s Don Carlos 10.00 Richard Tucker Music Gala 12.00-2.00mm Mots Eles' Swan Lake

BBC WORLD

News on the hour. 8.05am Horizon 9.25 Film '96 12.15pm Panorama 1,15 World Business Report 1,30 Newshour Asia and Pacific 225 Andrew Net 3.05 Naked Hollywood 4.25 Tomorrow's World 5.15 World Business Report \$25 Time Out Jeanny Clarkson's Motorworld 8.05 The Global Report Columbia 8.25 Food and Direk 12,30em Newsingst 4.05 The Global Report Columbia 5.00-8.00 Newsday

SPORT

RACING 43

SUTHERLAND GOES IN SEARCH OF GOLD AT CHELTENHAM FESTIVAL

WEDNESDAY FEBRUARY 28 1996

Free transfer to bring Rush romance to end

straightforward. The last

thing I want is to leave on bad

terms and that won't happen,"

he said. "The club have been great to me. We've come to an

amicable agreement, and I1!

and keep taking the money, but I'm not like that. I believe I

have two years left, and I want

No one should doubt it. The

announcement is certain to provoke a hectic race for the services of the most prolific

goalscorer of modern times.

This season Celtic, Leeds Uni-

ted, Manchester City and

Middlesbrough from the Pre-

miership all expressed interest, along with Sunderland,

and the news that he will be available is likely to interest every Endsleigh Insurance

League club plus many in the

Although Rush is 34, he is as

lithe now as in his prime, and

if his pace has diminished

slightly, that is relative. His pace is still sharp, his speed of thought and reaction unaffect-

Rush joined Liverpool for £300,000 from Chester in

for work, Rush was the first

line of defence in perhaps

during the early 1980s - with Dalglish, Souness, Hansen

the back, but we had to change

"We liked to play it out from

Liverpool's greatest team

and Lawrenson.

ed by the years.

"It would have been easy to stay on the substitutes' bench

play until the summer.

to play football."

He would probably have ONE of football's most rewarding parmerships is finally to end. Ian Rush will leave Liverpool at the end of the season on a free transfer after 15 years, interrupted only by a brief, unhappy 12 months in Italy. "He wants first-team football and that is understandable, bearing in mind his stature and ability." Roy Evhim, but he has always put the ans, the Liverpool manager, said yesterday. "He would rather do that here with us, club first." but he is not in the first team at

Rush, the club captain, has been out of the side since an injury cost him his place before Christmas. The subsequent success of the Collymore and Fowler partnership has kept him out of the side for the first time since he made his mark in 1981, and with the years no longer on his side, he accepts that the time is ripe for

"I must look to my future, and so must Liverpool," Rush said yesterday. "It will be a massive wrench to leave, but I have reluctantly decided it is

preferred to leave immediatey, but with Liverpool lacking cover as they pursue what would be his sixth championship. Rush has agreed to remain until his contract expires. "He will stay until the end of the season because he appreciates our position." Evans said. "That is not ideal for



Tendulkar's brilliance eclipsed in Australia's classic triumph



Le Tissier accepts his international isolation

MATTHEW LE TISSIER has come to terms with his prolonged absence from the England team and admits that, on his form this season, he has barely deserved a place in the plans of Terry Venables, the England coach (Russell Kempson writes). Though that is hardly a startling admission, it indicates that Le Tissier may have emerged from one of the darkest periods of his career.

Le Tissier, the Southampton forward, faces Swindon Town tonight in an FA Cup fifth round replay at The Dell. He has not featured in

ACROSS

10 Permit (5)

I Burrow (for food); cheer

3 King David, as author (8)

8 Glazed earthenware (7)

11 Firework, showers with marks (5.6)

17 (Cumfortable) middle class

20 Meaning: snow heap (5)

21 Confusing, muddling (7)

22 Heap curses on (8)

SOLUTION TO NO 715

Genteel (4)

13 Rankle: decay (b)

15 One-room flat (b)

"I can't put my finger on what's been going wrong, and I know I can produce much more than I have done, but I can at least see why I'm not

1980. He took a while to break into the side, only doing so after the late Bob Paisley told him to be more selfish in front of goal. Statistics of 207 goals in 324 games before the move to Italy in 1987, an astonishing return against modern defences, suggest that the message sank in, but from the start

Venables's thinking since the ill-fated fixture with Ireland in Dublin a year ago. His continued omission since has been attributed as the reason for his poor form this season. he was much more than simply a goalscorer. With his pace and appenie

"It was frustrating for me not to get a chance with England but, as far as this season is concerned, I can't offer any excuses and I don't want to."

getting a look-in with England. I just haven't been playing well."

TWO

CROSSWORD

No 716

ACROSS. I Mimicry 5 Tazz 9 Chain 10 Raucous 11 Put the wind

up 12 Ghetto 13 Ascend 16 Surveillance 19 Indices 20 Slake 21 Yo-yo 22 Erratum

7 Inspid 8 Julius Caesar 12 Gossipy 14 Enchant 15 Elysee

SOLUTION TO TIMES TWO CROSSWORD NO 7II
Is association with BRITISH MIDLAND
ACROSS. 2 Micawher 6 Sundue 8 Obtain 9 Bubble.

DOWN: 1 Put-upon 2 Meteoric 3 Albino 4 Brass 5 Rankle 7 Debonarr 11 Appetite 13 Humility 14 Achieve 15 Figurt 17 Nebula 19 China

ist PRIZE of a return ticket travelling economy class to

anywhere on BRITISH MIDLAND's domestic or international

2nd PRIZE of a return ticket to anywhere on BRITISH

10 Nasal 12 Corner shop 16 Incumbency 18 Lucre 20 Illicit 21 Unique 22 Twelve 23 Tea party

network is G Deer, Bexhill, East Sussex.

DOWN: I Mace 2 Measure 3 Constituency 4 Yorker 6 Avoid

1 The rabble (4-4)

2 Repugnance (5)

4 Oscillate up and down (3-3)

5 What a surprise! (2.3.6)

9 (llogical conclusion (3.8)

18 NW Irish county; its main

19 Boundary: advantage (4)

6 State of bad health (7)

7 Urban settlement (4)

14 Exalted, superb (7)

12 Power (5)

16 Horrified (b)

(own (5)

our whole approach against Liverpool and kick it long and early because of the threat of Rush," Peter Shreeves, then Tottenham Hotspur's manag-er, once confided. Indeed, Rush's contribution was inestimable as Liverpool won the European Cup, the FA Cup three times and the League Cup in its various guises five times in his two spells. One club will now be very lucky. ☐ Middlesbrough were told yesterday that Branco, the Brazil international full back, has received a work permit. The document had been delayed over doubts about whether he had played in enough of Brazil's games over the past two years to qualify. but confirmation from Mario Zagalo, the Brazil coach, removed the objection. Branco hopes to make his debut against Everton on Saturday.

The decision will raise eyebrows at Upton Park and Goodison, with both West Ham and Everton having respective requests for permits for Ilie Dumitrescu and Marc Hottiger rejected.

World Cup ignited by Waugh

FROM MICHAEL HENDERSON IN BOMBAY

BOMBAY (Australia toss): Australia (2pts) India by 16 runs

AUSTRALIA stared India full in the face last night, and India blinked. This was hard, unrelenting cricket, and there is no team in the world that can match Australia for hard-ness, or is so well-endowed with match-winners. So far. the preliminary games of this World Cup have been squibs. This was a rocket.

Where does one start? With Mark Waugh's superb century, or Tendulkar's bewitching 90? With Fleming's five wickets, or Warne's nerve under pressure? How well he bowled. Perhaps it should be with Taylor's captaincy as the mercury rose in this hothouse. so responsive was it to his team's requirements, so assured. The richness of performance, the variety of skills, made this game a one-day

Let us start with Waugh, surely the most beautiful batsman anywhere when the

M E Waugh run out. 126
"M A Taylor o Senach b Ray. 59
R I Forting o Margetiar b Ray. 12

Lee ter pat . .

Extras (10 3 w 2, nb 21

Total (50 overs)......

ful. Talent runs in his blood no less freely than it does in Tendulkar's, even if he has often showered his gifts without care or moderation. He has now made 256 runs in this World Cup, becoming the first man to record successive centuries in the competition. For a while yesterday he was the restrained partner, as Taylor rattled to an attractive fifty. but there was nothing shy about the way he sustained the innings. There were wonderful strokes to all parts of the ground, and the crowd did not

rithhold its appreciation. Waugh's vulnerability has always been part of his charm. He makes 70s that are worth hundreds if pleasure is the litmus-test, and happily there are signs that he intends to knuckle down. His class, allied to brother Steve's toughness, would make a frightening compound. Lucky Aus-

tralia, to have them both. The opening stand of 103 in 22 overs was a masterpiece of one-day cricket. There was nothing remotely flashy or hurried about it. Waugh and Taylor punished the bad balls,

NDIA
A D Jades law b Ferning 1
S R Tendultar st Healy b M E Waugh 80
V G Karribit b Ferning 0
W Actenuidar is Healy b S R Waugh 82
M Probhekar run out. 3
N R Mongo c Taylor b Warrie 27
A Kumble b Reming 17
J Smath c Lee b Reming 17
J Smath c Lee b Reming 7
S L V Ray not out 3
Extras (b 5, b 8, w 8, no 1) 22
Total (48 overs) 242

Troubled Stewar Strang strikes

> the backbone that India, who lost three wickers in the first 14 overs despite scoring at an identical rate, lacked. When Waugh was run out, one of five men to depart that

way, attempting a second run to deep square leg, he had made 126 from 135 balls, with three sixes and eight fours. It was not his fault that Australia subsided in the last five overs, when seven wickers fell for 26, the last four, astonishingly, to the final balls of the

Then Fleming revealed his hand. He was called into the side to replace McDermott and, in the absence of the injured Reiffel, he could not waste the new ball. He did not. He was relieved after seven overs, having dismissed Jadeia leg-before, and bowled

Kambli and Azharuddin. The wicket of Azharuddin. who played on, pulling a slower ball, was vital. In eight overs, the India captain had helped Tendulkar to add 63 as the young champion launched the most thrilling counterattack. This was an extraordinary passage of play as Ten-dulkar locked horns with a fine bowler, McGrath, and a great one, Warne, taking from the crowd — his crowd — what he needed. These moments do not occur often, and they are rarely forgotten.

Think of Callas at Covent

are also sensitive. Two strokes past mid-on's left hand were worked the gaps, and supplied whose first four overs included three maidens was dispatched for 27 in the next two. first over. Bombay, all of

India, was drunk with delight. Tendulkar enjoyed his mo-ments of luck. McGrath parried a fierce straight drive, and Law, making ground from mid-off towards a miscued drive, got his left hand to a difficult chance. But there was no mistaking the range, the utter daring, of this incredible

Vic. That is how Tendulkar

stands in regard to this ground. When Olivier played Othello, he used to walk to the

front of the stage before deliv-ering his opening lines. When

asked what he was up to, he

replied: "I'm smelling the au-

dience." Tendulkar's nostriks

simply sensational. McGrath,

Warne conceded ten off his

Even when Tendulkar went in that unusual way, stumped Mongia kept India in pursuit.
Mark Waugh, bowling off breaks, had got the vital wicket it was his day. Warne, brought back at the appropri ate moment, took the edge of Mongia's but with a perfectly pitched leg break, and wher Taylor called on Steve Waugh the seventh bowler, Mani rekar immediately tickled a catch to Healy.

Australia kept their nerve admirably, Fleming and Steve Waugh gently concluding the proceedings. Mark Waugh won his second man-of the match award, and anyon who upstages Tendulkar here deserves a bigger gong than

Jason Gillespie, a left-arm fast bowler from South Australia, will join the Australia party later this week, as Mo-Dermott's replacement. He will probably not be needed. If they are practising their scales right now, just wait until the

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Total (46 overs) 242 FALL OF WIGGETS 1-7, 2-7, 3-70, 4-143, 5-147, 6-201, 7-205, 9-224, 9-231 BOWLING, McGrath 8-3-48-0; Fleming 9-0-36-5, Warrie 10-1-28-1; Lee 3-0-23-0; M E Waugh 100-44-1, Beven 5-0-28-0; S R Waugh 3-0-22-2 BOWLNS Prabhator 10-0-54-0, Smath 10-1-51-0 Prasad 10-0-50-2, Kumbie 10-1-47-1, Rays 10-0-48-2 Ball speaks out, page 44 Joues in frame, page 44 Super League stalemate BY CHRISTOPHER IRVINE

FALL OF WICKETS 1-103, 3-140, 3-157, 4-032, 5-237, 6-244, 7-058, 8-358, 9-258

IF Sir Richard Scott wished to busy himself after the armsto-Iraq inquiry, he could turn to the equally impenetrable

war in rugby league. For Super Gun read Super League, on the point of dismantlement in Australia after the latest court decree. Meanwhile, the European version remains primed and ready to fire next month.

Last week's judgment deeming the breakaway Super League in Australia unlawful raised more questions than answers. One certainty did emerge yesterday, however. Super League has been served a temporary in-junction and will not kick off as scheduled on Friday.

The picture is one of confusion, farce and bitterness bordering on anarchy. Of the eight rebel clubs ordered by the court to return to the establishment fold of the Australian Rugby League (ARL), none has so far done so. This could yet scupper the start of the ARL season on Friday. It also leaves around 200 Super League players in limbo.
If he cannot play for Canberra in Super League, Laurie premature." he said.

BOMBAY SCOREBUARD

Daley, Australia's stand-off half, said that Australian Rules Football was a possible option. Playing in England is another alternative. Reverberations from the Sydney court are being felt by

club treasurers in England. They foresaw a £3 million jackpot for the four European sides reaching play-offs with the four leading Australian teams. Still, a show of confidence was produced yester-day by Bradford Bulls for the benefit of their new sponsor, Compaq Computers Ltd. Brian Smith, an Australian

who bailed out Sydney St George during the ARL Super League battle last year to take up the coaching appointment at Bradford, was optimistic. The ARL might not have always made right decisions, but at the core of their philosophy is wanting to do right by the game. I believe

they are very excited by the play-offs proposed by Super League, so suggestions they are out of the window may be

Compromise is the obvious solution but with the Rugby Football League prepared to enter the legal minefield to try to save the play-offs and Great Britain's tour of Australasia in October, the ARL pronouncing Super League dead and Super League insisting it will still start this year, it is some way off.

The backers of Super League, News Limited, part of The News Corporation, parent company of The Times. will apply for a stay of proceedings next week. "Our commitment to our players. their contracts and our vision of Super League remains rock solid," Lachlan Murdoch, News Limited's deputy chief

executive, said. The ARL hopes otherwise. "I think, once we get together, sanity will prevail," Ken

MURRAYFIELD SHOWDOWN



They see themselves as being superior, concescending and arrogant, but that's not just to us, it is to the whole world. They tend to think they are the masters of everything, whether it be soccer, cricket. rugby, economics or politics."

Jim Telfer, Scotland coach, on the English Page 43

